PRIVATE EYE

£1

No. 906
Friday
6 Sept. '96

FREE INSIDE:
NO COPY OF PUNCH

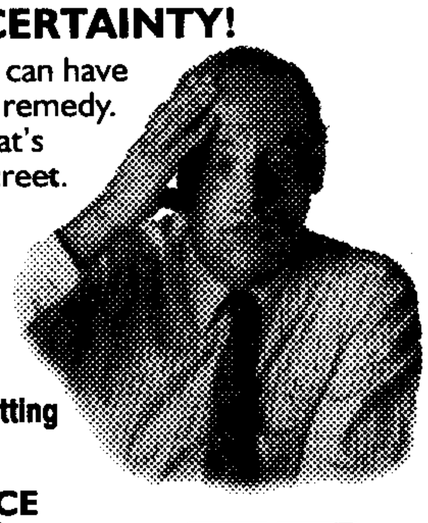
CONTHENATION STREET

DISCREET

SURVEILLANCE

EQUIPMENT ENDS UNCERTAINTY!

Whether it's commercial or personal, disloyalty can have catastrophic results. Fortunately there is now a remedy. Lorraine Electronics provide personal advice that's dependable, reliable and more importantly, discreet. You can write or telephone in confidence for advice or simply to request a free catalogue.



■ UHF Crystal Controlled Room and Telephone Transmitters ■ Body Wires and Wire Taps ■ Radio and Computer Controlled Systems ■ Specialist Receivers and Recorders ■ Recording and Transmitting Briefcases ■ Counter Surveillance Equipment

LORRAINE ELECTRONICS SURVEILLANCE
716 Lea Bridge Road, London E10 6AW
0181-558 4226
PROTECTING YOUR BEST INTERESTS FAX 0181 558 1338

PE

SPONSORED BY The MACALLAN

PRIVATE EYE TIMES

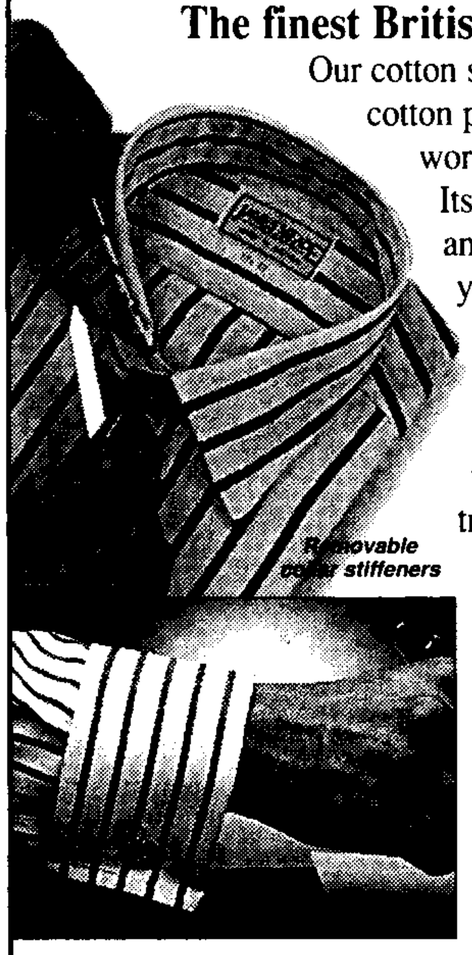
A CELEBRATION OF 35 YEARS OF PRIVATE EYE CARTOONS, CARICATURES & ILLUSTRATIONS

1961 NPG 1996

4 OCTOBER 1996 – 5 JANUARY 1997
OPEN DAILY ADMISSION FREE
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY
St Martin's Place London WC2

Jermyn Street quality at affordable prices

You do not have to pay Jermyn Street prices for a superbly finished shirt. By dealing direct, we avoid London's expensive West End overheads and pass the benefit on to you. Yet we forfeit none of the quality.



The finest British fabrics

Our cotton shirts are made from pure, two-fold cotton poplin, the shirt fabric chosen by the world's most famous shirtmakers. Its rich lustre and silken feel make it cool and comfortable to wear all year round yet this quality of cotton poplin stands up to years of use.

Wide range of clothing

Our free colour brochure illustrates our wide range of clothing including shirts, trousers, nightwear and knitwear.

Choice of up to seven sleeve lengths

By offering a choice of up to 7 different sleeve lengths we ensure your shirts fit you perfectly. We combine this with generous cut, long tails and superb finishing to bring you a British shirt which will rival the finest made-to-measure shirt you can buy.

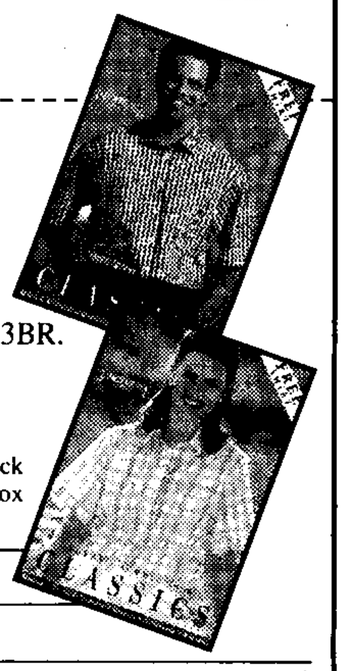
Embroidered initials - the ultimate distinction

Your own initials can be embroidered on to your shirt to give it that ultimate distinctive touch. This and our 24 hour despatch are both part of our commitment to service.

Value for money

Every item in our catalogue represents excellent value for money.

JAMES MEADE LIMITED



INTRODUCTORY OFFER

For your FREE catalogue Telephone 01264 333222.

Fax 01264 363200.

Or post this coupon to James Meade Limited, FREEPOST (SN1676), Andover, Hampshire, SP10 3BR.

Please send me a copy of your

☐ **Mens' catalogue BMPEAQ**
☐ **Women's catalogue BWPEAQ**
☐ **Both's catalogues BBPEAQ**

☑ Please tick appropriate box

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Postcode _____ ☎ _____

If you do not wish to receive direct mail from other carefully selected companies, please let us know.

What price safety?

Did you know that you can become an advanced motorist or motorcyclist, for just £39? Advanced motoring makes safer drivers.

£39

For further information and the address of your **Local IAM Group** complete the coupon and return **Freepost**

POST TODAY NO STAMP NEEDED

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

Tell me more about The IAM and my local group

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS
Freepost, Licence No. SW1965,
359 Chiswick High Rd., London, W4 4BR.
Tel: **0181-994 4403** (24hr Answering) Fax: **0181-994 9249**

Name _____

_____

Address _____ PE 6/9

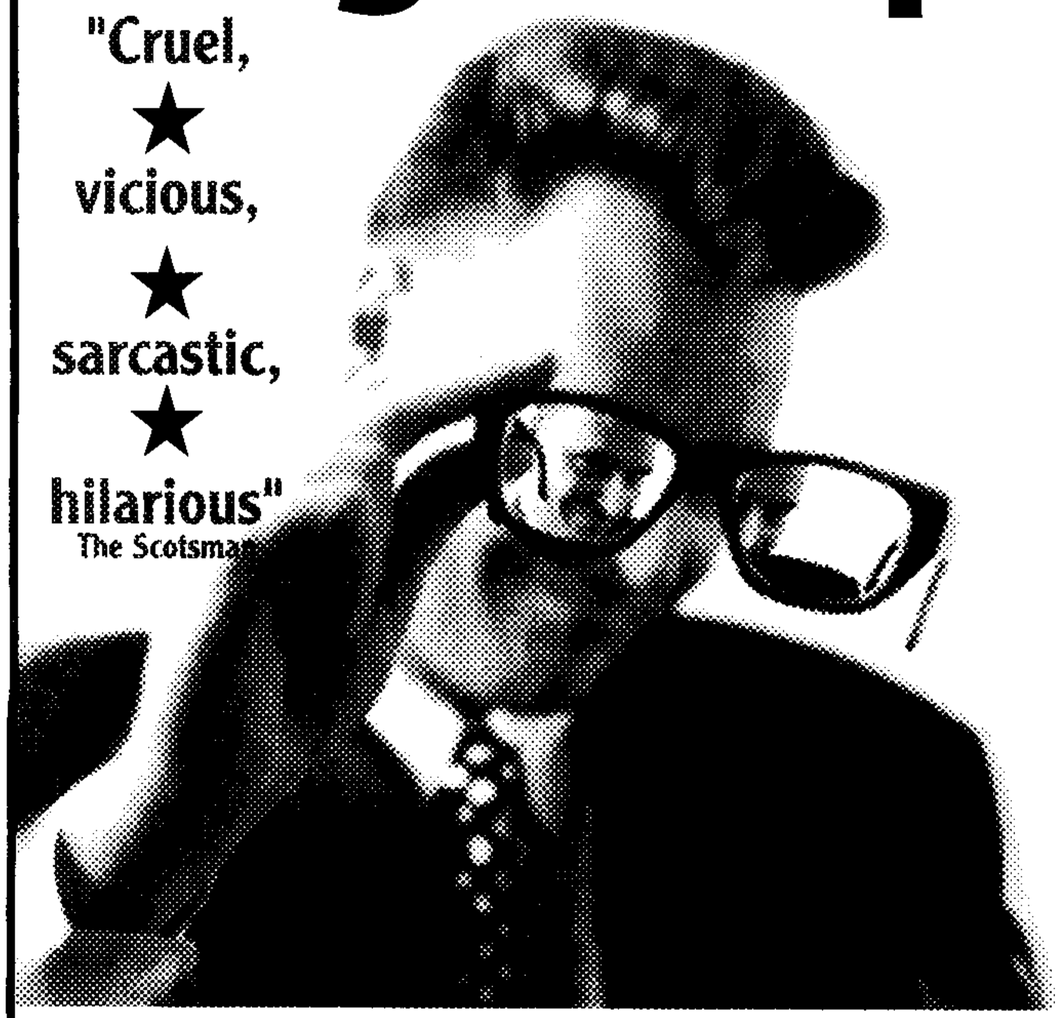
_____

_____ Post Code _____

Reg. Charity No. 249002

Greg Proops

"Cruel,
★
vicious,
★
sarcastic,
★
hilarious"
The Scotsman



September

20th	The Castle, Wellingborough	01933 270007
22nd	The Rose Theatre, Oxford	01865 798600
23rd	Theatr Clwyd, Mold	01352 755114
26th	Phoenix Theatre, Leicester	0116 2554854
27th	The Harlequin, Redhill	01737 765547
28th	Theatre Hafren, Newtown	01686 625007
29th	Theatre Royal, Wakefeild	01924 211311
30th	Arts Centre, Paisley	0141 887 1010

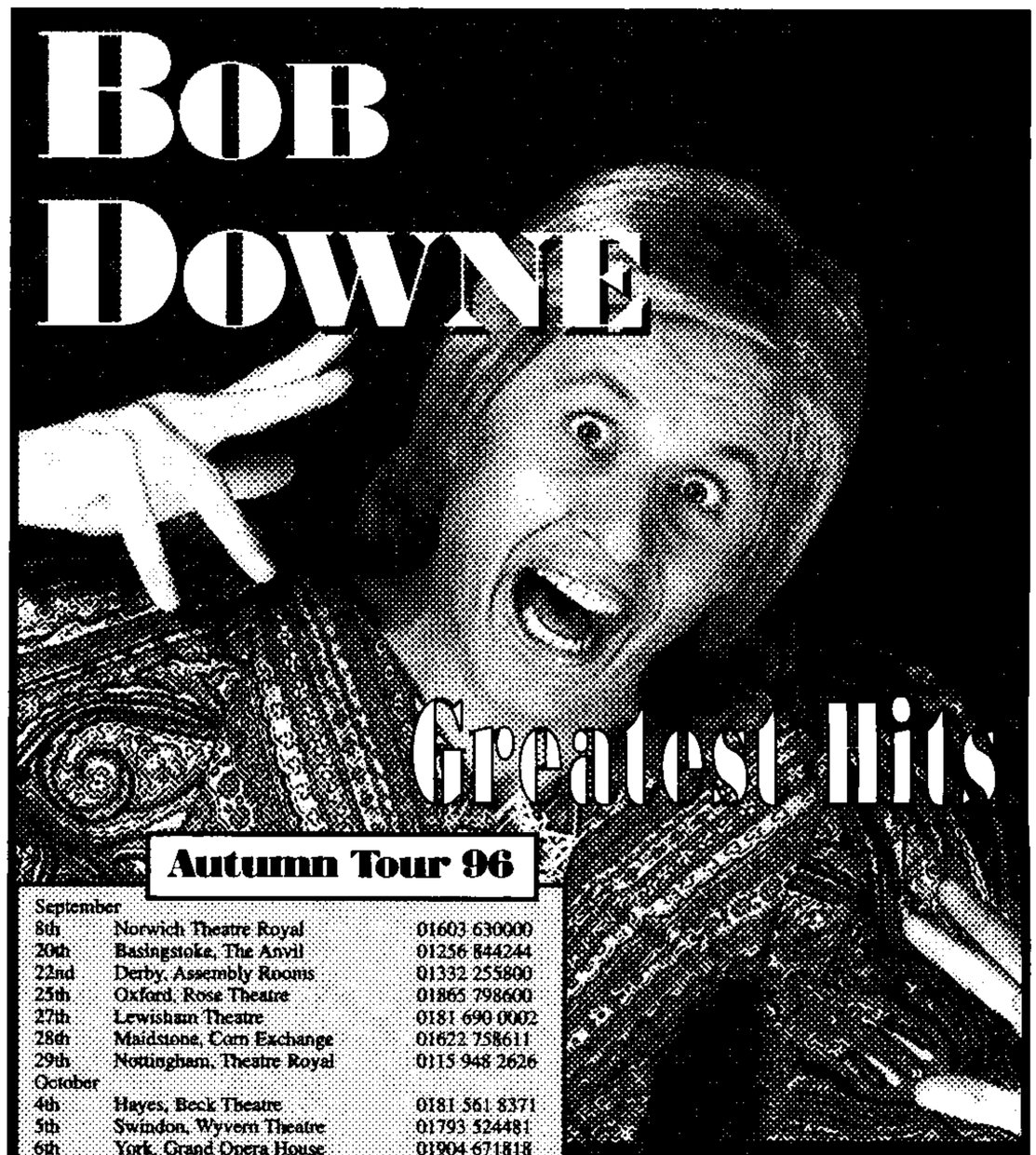
October

1st	Motherwell Theatre	01698 267515
6th	Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham	01242 572573
9th	St George's Concert Hall, Bradford	01274 752000
11th	Royton Assembly Hall, Oldham	0161 911 4072
12th	Colchester Arts Centre	01206 577301
16th	Wyvern Theatre, Swindon	01793 524481
17th	MAC, Birmingham	0121 440 3838
18th	MAC, Birmingham	0121 440 3838
19th	Corn Exchange, Maidstone	01622 758611
20th	City Varieties, Leeds	0113 243 0808
21st	Dundee Rep, Dundee	01382 223530
31st	Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple	01271 24242

To Be Continued..

stoneranger

Bob Downe



Greatest Hits

Autumn Tour 96

September		
8th	Norwich Theatre Royal	01603 630000
20th	Basingstoke, The Anvil	01256 844244
22nd	Derby, Assembly Rooms	01332 255800
25th	Oxford, Rose Theatre	01865 798600
27th	Lewisham Theatre	0181 690 0002
28th	Maidstone, Corn Exchange	01622 758611
29th	Nottingham, Theatre Royal	0115 948 2626
October		
4th	Hayes, Beck Theatre	0181 561 8371
5th	Swindon, Wyvern Theatre	01793 524481
6th	York, Grand Opera House	01904 671818
9th	Wimborne, Tivoli Theatre	01202 848014
12th	Bracknell, South Hill Park	01344 484123
13th	Colne, Municipal Hall	01282 863085
18th	St Albans, The Alban Arena	01727 866466
19th	King's Lynn, The Corn Exchange	01553 764864
20th	Cambridge, Corn Exchange	01223 357851
22nd	High Wycombe, Wycombe Swan	01494 512000
23rd	Rhyl Pavillion	01745 330000
25th	Liverpool Neptune Theatre	0151 709 7844
26th	Liverpool Neptune Theatre	0151 709 7844
28th	Aberdeen, His Majesty's	01224 641122

To Be Continued.....

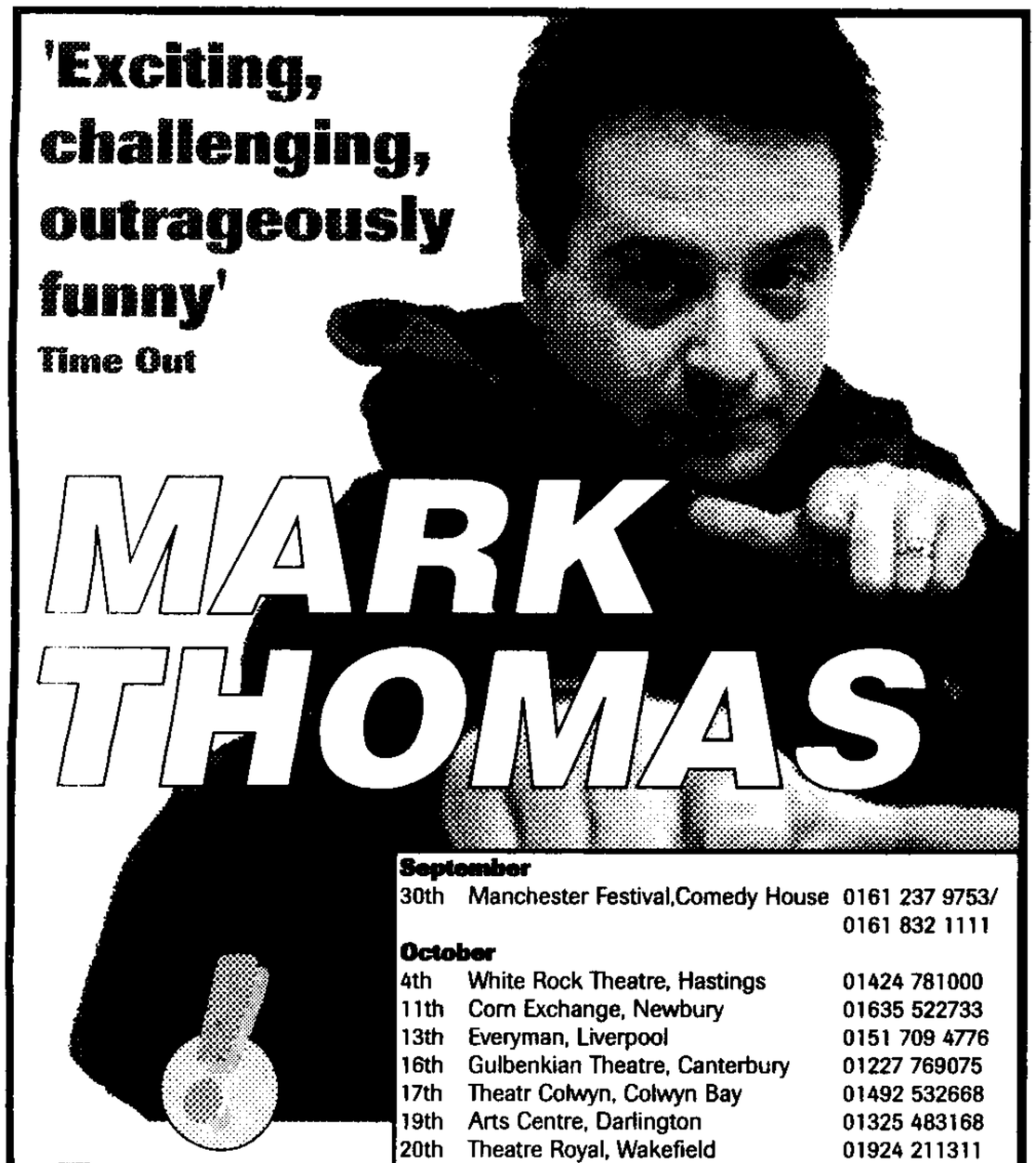
'Extremely funny,
and rather touching.'
Evening Standard.

CD "Bob Downe: Greatest Hits"
avalible Sept 16th

stoneranger

'Exciting, challenging, outrageously funny'

Time Out



MARK THOMAS

Autumn Tour 96

http://alt.venus.co.uk/markthomas

stoneranger

September

30th	Manchester Festival,Comedy House	0161 237 9753/ 0161 832 1111

October

4th	White Rock Theatre, Hastings	01424 781000
11th	Corn Exchange, Newbury	01635 522733
13th	Everyman, Liverpool	0151 709 4776
16th	Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury	01227 769075
17th	Theatr Colwyn, Colwyn Bay	01492 532668
19th	Arts Centre, Darlington	01325 483168
20th	Theatre Royal, Wakefield	01924 211311
25th	Barbican Theatre, York	01904 656688
26th	Guildhall Arts Centre, Gloucester	01452 505089
27th	The Stables, Milton Keynes	01908 583928
30th	Municipal Hall, Colne	01282 863085
31st	Arts Centre, Norwich	01603 660352

November

1st	Arts Centre, Norwich	01603 660352
4th	Playhouse, Newcastle	0191 230 5151
6th	The Civic, Wolverhampton	01902 312030

To Be Continued.....

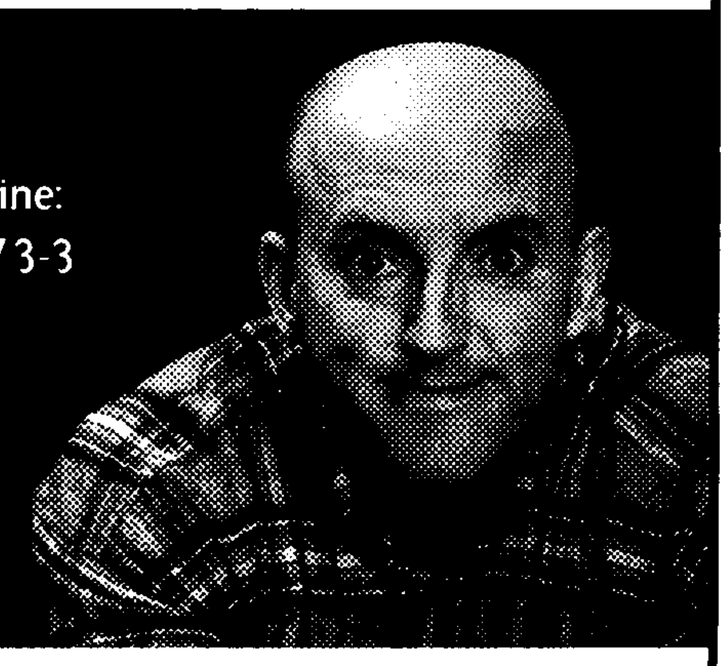
LEE HURST

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST

Autumn Tour 1996

Pete Harris for BACKYARD PROMOTIONS presents.

Lee Hurst
Information Line:
0181-93-83-73-3



4th Oct...KING'S LYNN - Corn Exchange 8pm
5th Oct...SWANSEA - Grand Theatre 7.30pm
6th Oct...MANCHESTER - Manchester Apollo 7.30pm
9th Oct...LONDON - Lewisham Theatre 8pm
10th Oct...READING - Hexagon Theatre 8pm
11th Oct...COVENTRY - Warwick Arts Centre 8pm
12th Oct...BRIGHTON - Dome Theatre 8pm
13th Oct...ABERDEEN - Music Hall 8pm
16th Oct...YORK - Grand Opera House 8pm
17th Oct...PRESTON - Charter Theatre 8pm
18th Oct...SOUTHAMPTON - Guildhall Theatre 8pm
19th Oct...ABERYSTWYTH - Aberystwyth Arts Centre 9pm
20th Oct...LLANDUDNO - North Wales Theatre 8pm
23rd Oct...STAFFORD - Gatehouse Theatre 8pm
24th Oct...HULL - Hull City Hall 7.30pm
25th Oct...BLANDFORD FORUM - Bryanston Arts Centre 8.15pm
26th Oct...SHEFFIELD - Sheffield City Hall 7.30pm
27th Oct...DERBY - Assembly Rooms 7.30pm
29th Oct...LEICESTER - Haymarket Theatre 7.30pm
30th Oct...CARDIFF - St. David's Hall 7.30pm
31st Oct...WOLVERHAMPTON - Civic Hall 8pm
1st Nov...CAMBRIDGE - Cambridge Corn Exchange 8pm
2nd Nov...HALIFAX - Victoria Theatre 8pm
3rd Nov...LIVERPOOL - Liverpool Playhouse 7.30pm
5th Nov...NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE - Tyne Theatre 8pm
7th Nov...IPSWICH - The Corn Exchange 8pm
8th Nov...BOURNEMOUTH - Pavillion Theatre 8pm
9th Nov...TUNBRIDGE WELLS - Assembly Hall Theatre 8pm
10th Nov...OXFORD - Oxford Apollo 7.30pm
15th Nov...GUILDFORD - Guildford Civic Hall 7.45pm
16th Nov...ST ALBANS - Alban Arena 8pm
17th Nov...HASTINGS White Rock Theatre 7.45pm
23rd Nov...CROYDON - Ashcroft Theatre 8.30pm
24th Nov...CHELTENHAM - Everyman Theatre 6pm & 9pm
25th Nov...PLYMOUTH - Plymouth Pavilions 8pm
29th Nov...NORTHAMPTON - Derngate Theatre 8pm
5th Dec...CANTERBURY Marlowe Theatre 7.30pm
6th Dec...BRISTOL - Colston Hall 8pm
8th Dec...NORWICH - Theatre Royal 7.30pm

THE ANATOMY OF ALE

TOM HIGGINS

"The Master Brewer"

ONCE in a while, "Old Tom" turns up at The Brewery and has a walk around. Obviously completely lost as he's never worked here in his life.

FUGGLES

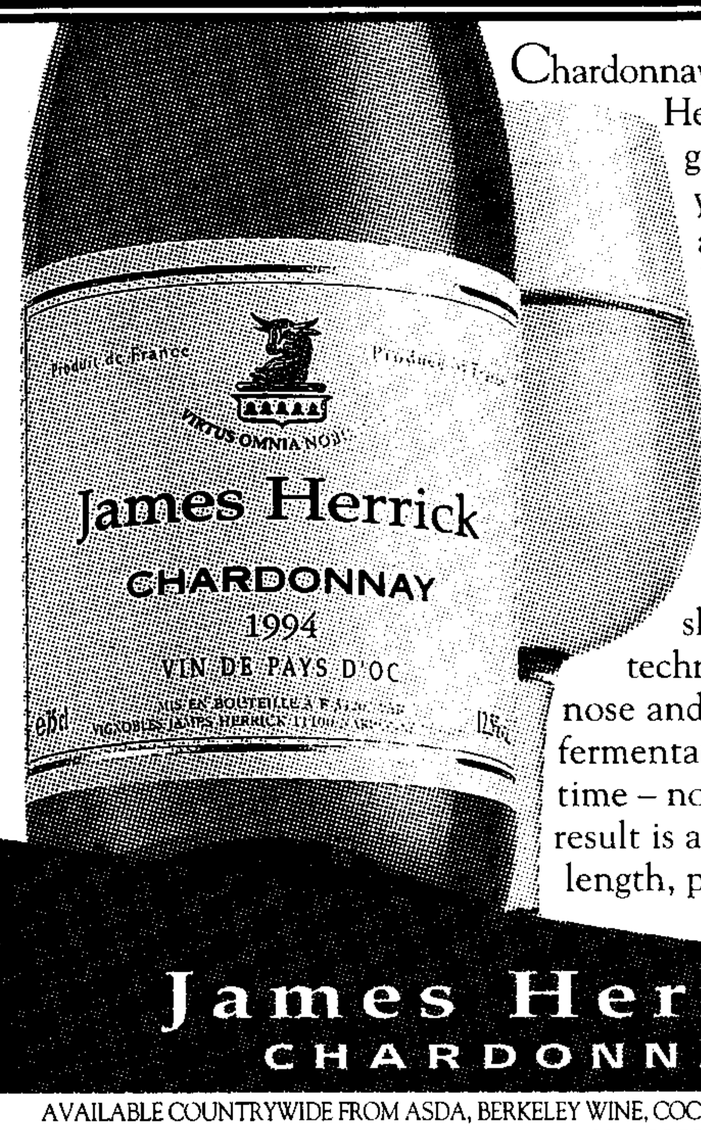
A Brand NEW old Fashioned Ale.

5.6% BY VOLUME

EASY DRINKING

WITH NEW BOTTLE WIDGET

Not too fruity, not too dry; not too lemony, not too oaky. Just right.



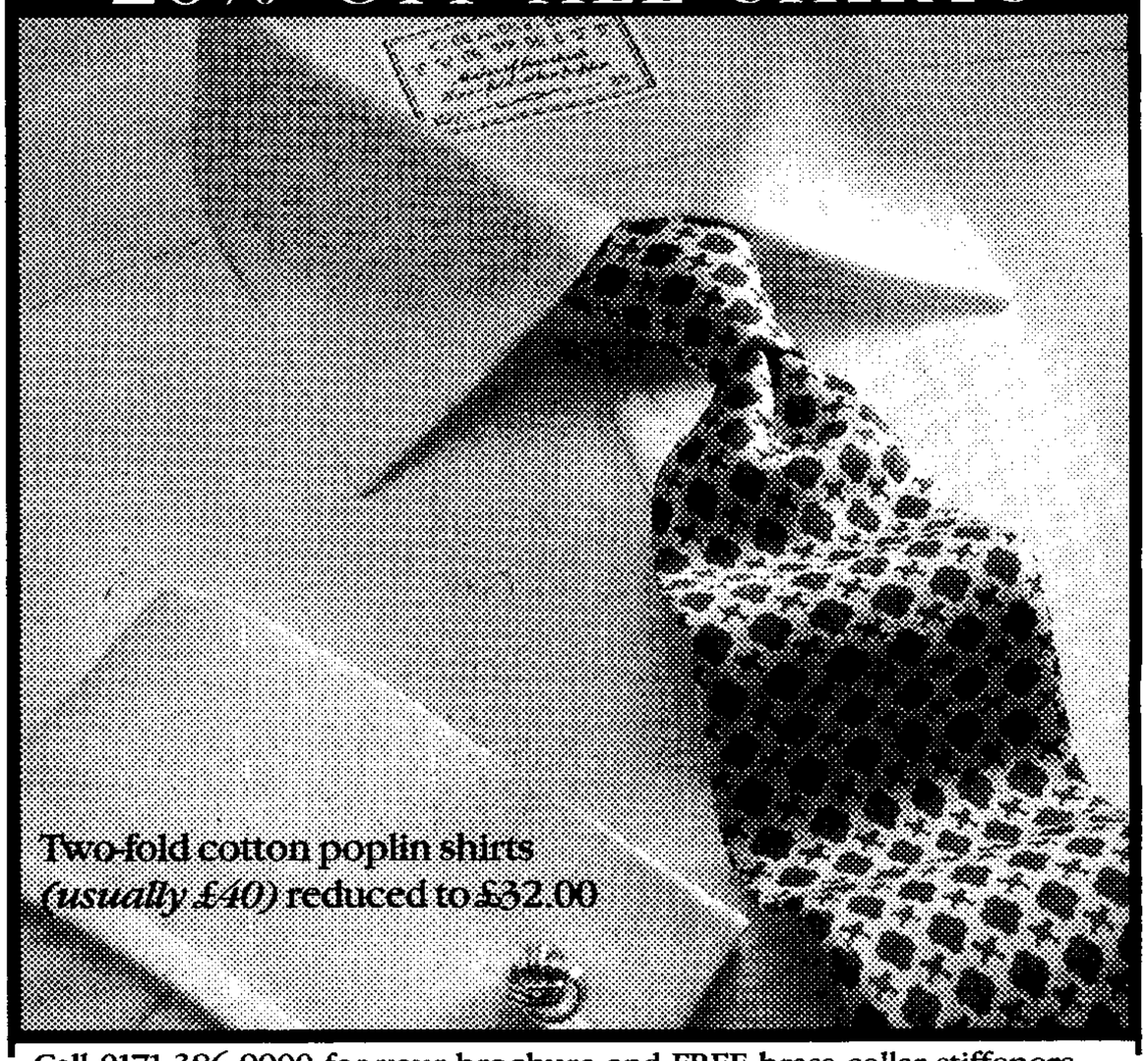
Chardonnay is all that James Herrick makes – he *has* to get it right, and after 22 years studying the grape around the world he knows how. He controls *quality* by growing his grapes in his own vineyards, and *taste* by balancing the strengths of each in his vintage. He combines Old World skills with New World technology, the *vigneron's* nose and palate with malolactic fermentation and a formative time – no more – in cask. The result is a Chardonnay of *classic* length, power and elegance.

James Herrick
CHARDONNAY

AVAILABLE COUNTRYWIDE FROM ASDA, BERKELEY WINE, COCKBURNS OF LEITH, DAVISONS, E.H. BOOTH, ELDRIDGE POPE, EUROPA, FULLER'S, HALL BATSON, ODDBINS, RUSSELL CELLARS, SAINSBURY'S, SOMERFIELD, SPAR, TESCO, THOS. PEATLING, UNWINS, VICTORIA WINE, WAITROSE, WINE CELLAR.

Charles Tyrwhitt introductory offer

20% OFF ALL SHIRTS



Two-fold cotton poplin shirts *(usually £40)* reduced to £32.00

Call 0171 386 9900 for your brochure and FREE brass collar stiffeners or fax 0171 386 0027 or send this FREEPOST coupon today...

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____

Address _____

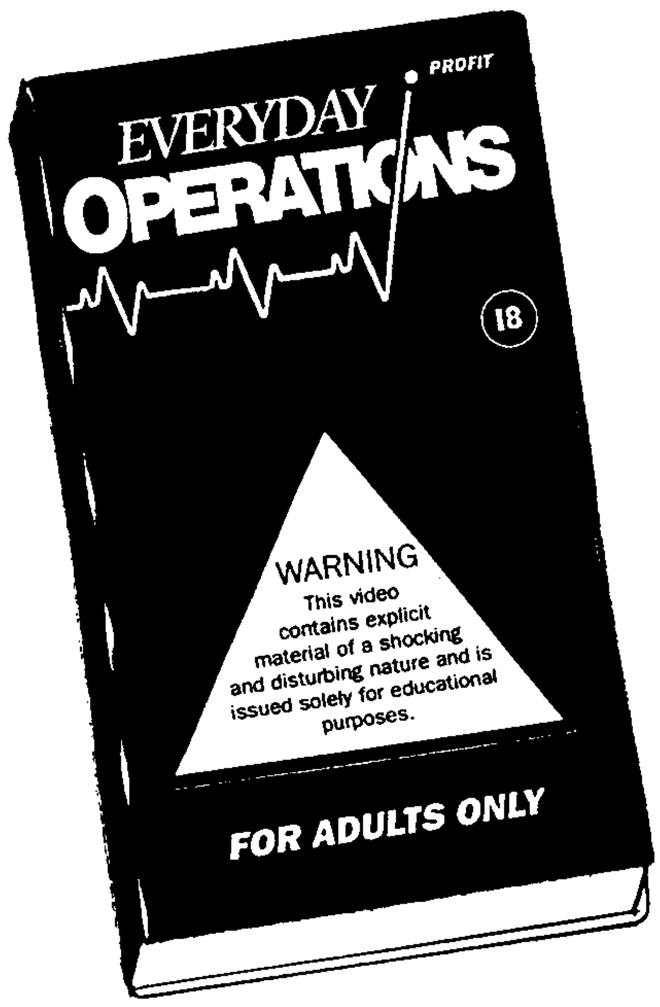
_____

Postcode _____ **PE996**

Post to: Charles Tyrwhitt, FREEPOST, *298-300 Munster Rd, London SW6 6YX*

Telephone: 0171 386 9900 Facsimile: 0171 386 0027

From Gnomesick Videos



This video contains secretly filmed footage of some of the most horrifying goings-on in Britain's hospitals today, including:

- Violent and unpleasant cuts.
- Desperately ill patients waiting for hours on trolleys.
- Corridors filled with stinking rubbish owing to privatisation of cleaning services.
- Old people dying of neglect.
- Junior doctors falling asleep on their 90-hour shifts.
- Mentally ill patients being discharged into the community to commit murder and rape.
- Car parks full of shining new cars owned by thousands of trust managers.
- Doctors allowing their operations and then selling them to seedy video manufacturers at £1000 a time.

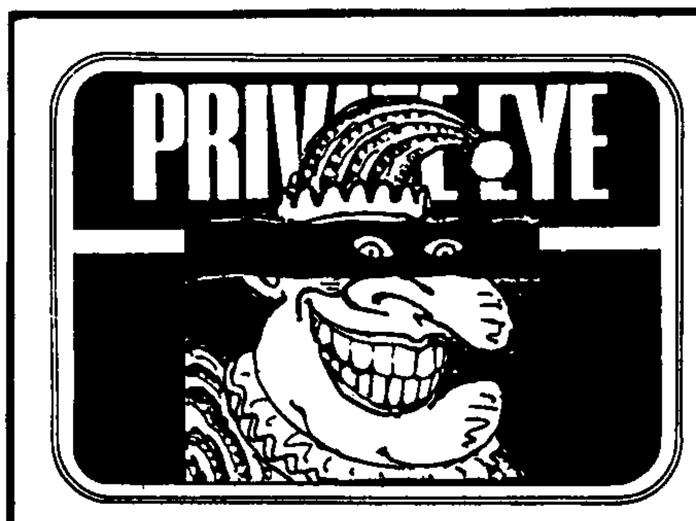
It's amazing what surgeons will do

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

£17 per annum. Europe and Eire £25.
Airmail – rest of world £33.
Cheques/POs to Private Eye. Access/Visa.

PRIVATE EYE SUBSCRIPTIONS
Mortimer House, 230-236 Lavender Hill, London SW11 1LE
Tel: 0171-228 0588. Fax: 0171-924 3719.
Email: eyesubs@cix.compulink.co.uk

EDITORIAL
6 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG.
Tel: 0171-437 4017. Fax: 0171-437 0705.
Email: strobes@cix.compulink.co.uk
WWW:http://www.intervid.co.uk/intervid/eye/gateway.html



COLOUR SECTION

ROLL UP, roll up and book your seat now for the libel action of the year: Hamilton v the *Guardian*, set down for early October.

So delighted was he with his success in changing the law so he could sue the *Guardian*, that Neil Hamilton, the glamorous Tory MP for Tatton, rushed ahead with his writ.

Unfortunately, Hamilton and his advisers did not consult the Tory party or their whips, who now realise to their horror that the case will overlap with the Tory party conference. So just as John Major is distancing himself from sleaze and proclaiming the feel-good factor, day after day in the high court allegations will be pouring out about one of his most prominent former junior ministers.

Hamilton is exuding his customary cocky confidence telling the world the *Guardian* will be a "pushover" and expecting a repeat of his 1985 victory over the BBC (when the BBC collapsed before even presenting its defence). The *Guardian*, however, has issued the firmest instructions that the case must be fought to the finish. Among those expected to receive subpoenas are prime minister Major and first secretary Heseltine. A subpoena is also likely to be issued against Central Television for a full version of the censored *Cook Report* programme about lobbyists Ian Greer and Associates, which, the *Guardian* will argue, should be shown to the jury in full and in public.

Among the questions likely to be asked of Hamilton are:

1 Did he ever in any capacity do work for Greer for money, and if so how much did he get for it?

2 Why did he resign as trade minister after so confidently assuring us all that he wouldn't?

3 Did he ever have any business interests which he did not declare?

4 What really happened that night at the Paris Ritz?

THE news that blue-blooded City merchant bank Robert Fleming has landed in the same sort of mess as Barings — subsidiaries gambling on the Japanese stock exchange with clients' money and then pocketing the profits and dumping losses on the clients — has been greeted with equanimity by the bank and its supporters.

They are striving mightily to "rehabilitate" their dynamic entrepreneur Colin Armstrong who was chiefly responsible. But if the scandal ever comes to parliament, watch out for an intervention by old Etonian Tim Renton, Tory MP for Mid Sussex and former minister of state at the foreign office, who made the usual ass of himself at the Scott inquiry.

Renton is also chairman of the parliamentary group on Hong Kong, where the Fleming scandal took place. He left government in 1989, and has been making money ever since. His chief payment for an "outside interest" is the £20,000 he gets as parliamentary consultant to Robert Fleming Holdings. But that is not counting his "remunerated directorship" with Fleming Continental European Trust, or his visit with his wife to Hong Kong in October last year (all expenses paid by the Hong Kong government, headed by Renton's former fellow Tory MP, Chris Patten).

GIVEN British Telecom's high charges and even higher profits, one might have thought it could afford not to extract extra money from the most vulnerable in society — and one would be wrong.

The *BT guide for people who are disabled or elderly* makes no mention of a service called "Special Care". It is only when the elderly or disabled have problems with their telephone — which may be a lifeline for them — that they are told how BT can guarantee their telephone will be back in service within four hours.

Obviously this is an appealing prospect for those who are housebound or less mobile, but there is a hitch. The disabled and pensioners' service is not free: it costs £8 a quarter, which must be deducted from pension or benefits.

Meanwhile that other privatised utility British Gas is also running a scam (*"scheme", shurely?*) for pensioners: a special offer in south-east England under which OAPs are entitled to a free check of their gas supply and domestic gas appliances.

This sounds public spirited — except that any fault found as a result of the "free" check automatically incurs the £60 call out charge. The charge has even been applied for such simple tasks as adjusting the gas flow on boiler pilot lights.

Moreover, much of the work is done by subcontractors. When a dispute arises, customers who complain to British Gas in the normal way are told to address complaints to the subcontractors — who in turn tell them to contact British Gas. This should keep British Gas, Ofgas and m'learned friends busy for months.

SEVERN Trent's hostile bid for South West Water is now with the monopolies and mergers commission (MMC), where the outcome will be of particular interest to Clare Tritton. She serves on the MMC — and sits on the board at Severn Trent Water.

Severn Trent's annual report starts with a letter from chairman Richard Ireland explaining that the proposed merger "represents an outstanding opportunity for Severn Trent to enhance value for shareholders". Strangely there is no mention of the merger improving the service to customers — a record-breaking 89,724 of whom were served with legal summonses by the company in the last year.

Other interesting Severn Trent facts:

- Its board of directors hold down 20 other directorships between them, ranging from UK Water Industry Research Ltd to Radiodetection Ltd.
- Group chief executive Victor Cocker earns the most on the board with a basic salary of £179,000; benefits in kind of £6,600; an annual bonus of £45,000; and a pension contribution of £90,000.

- ***Dirty Anoraks*** 6
- ***Hallo! to Brian, Camilla and Liam*** *(Who he? Ed)* 7
- ***Hackwatch returns*** 11
- ***Rotten Buggers*** *(shurely 'Boroughs'? Ed)* .. 13
- ***Footnotes: Murder Mystery*** 26

"They must be Prescott's eyes – he's always kept in the dark"

Street Of Shame

LIKE his *Daily Mirror* counterpart (see Hackwatch), *Sun* pop writer Andy Coulson has been filling his column for months with increasingly desperate puffs for the ludicrous Gallagher brothers of Oasis.

He was in particularly fine form on 24 August, reporting in early editions of the *Sun* that Liam Gallagher had "thrilled the crowd" and "belted out a string of hits" at Oasis's secret gig in the Festival Hall.

Er, not quite. As the shamefaced hack was forced to admit in later editions, Liam had not performed at all.

FANS of the *Daily Mirror*'s legendary deputy editor Brendon "Chucky" Parsons are thrilled that he has finally resurfaced after many months of apparent sanity. For no sooner had editor Piers "Boy" Morgan gone on holiday, than "Chucky" managed to elicit a personal demand for an apology from Princess Diana.

Following the Harvey Nicols video case, Chucky's headline was the tasteful: *You are now free to look at Diana's breasts.*

Diana ordered an emissary to phone "Chucky" himself to convey her anger, and an exchange of letters followed. This was unfortunate as only a couple of weeks before Morgan had been invited to Kensington Palace for lunch with Diana and Prince William, and had been crowing about what good friends they were. Not any more.

However, "Chucky" soon surpassed himself. When the *News of the Screws* published its fuzzy photo of Charles and Camilla, he instantly published a clear focus snap, in colour, of the couple at their Welsh hideaway. Except the *Mirror*'s picture was actually taken six years ago at the Queen Mother's lodge at Balmoral. Another "Chucky" exclusive!

POOR Dominic Lawson, editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*: he has a news editor from the *News of the World* — and it's beginning to show.

"Live Missile Found on Royal Picnic Beach," screamed a recent headline, claiming that a live warhead, thought to be a surface-to-air type, had been found on Little Bernera, off the Isle of Lewis, after the Queen stopped there for a picnic. "The firing pin," it added, "was clearly visible."

This came as a big surprise to coastguards at Stornoway, who couldn't understand how the discovery of a rusty old shell casing on Valtos Beach at Uig on mainland Lewis — eight miles from Little Bernera — could justify Fleet Street's hyperventilating coverage. "Scores of these things are found each year around the islands," one pointed out. "There is absolutely no connection with the royals' visit to Little Bernera — the Queen was nowhere near Valtos beach. It is just inventive rubbish."

If the truth about the "warhead" was a surprise to Lawson, so too will be the news of his new secretary's previous employment. She was a Page Three girl.

Flashers will be exposed, pledge police

N. Devon Journal

CONGRATULATIONS to the *Mail on Sunday* for its two-page demolition of "the silliest story ever told" — a new book, published this week, which claims that Martin Bormann was captured by the British at the end of the war and "spirited off to South America" where he lived under an alias until his death.

While the *Mail* described this preposterous yarn as "one of the biggest publishing gaffes for years", it neglected to remind its readers of the previous mega-gaffe in this *genre*.

In 1972, under the headline MARTIN BORMANN FOUND, the *Daily Express* printed a photo of the 72-year-old Nazi, apparently alive and well and living in Argentina. Alas! The man in the picture turned out to be Rodolfo Siri, a 54-year-old schoolteacher from Buenos Aires.

The hack responsible for this fiasco was a certain Stewart Steven. Where is he now: living in Latin America, perhaps, under an assumed identity to hide his shame? Not at all: he is a columnist on... the *Mail on Sunday*!

PANIC gripped bibulous executives of the *Daily Star* when they learned that their puritanical boss Lord "Alco" Hollick had commissioned a time-and-motion expert to spend a day at the office observing their strange rituals.

For one of these rituals is the "twitching time" — that moment at 10 past noon every day, after morning conference, when editor Phil Walker feels a sudden urge to restore his metabolic balance with copious quantities of Guinness and whisky-chasers.

To ensure that his habits remained unobserved, Walker ordered assistant editor Mike Parker to take the man to lunch in the upstairs room at a neighbouring pub — while the editor and his cronies enjoyed their midday swill downstairs.

There was only one small flaw in the plan: Parker, who is almost as thirsty as Walker, didn't realise he was supposed to moderate his own intake. He proceeded to entertain the management spy to a four-hour lunch, washed down with no fewer than four bottles of wine.

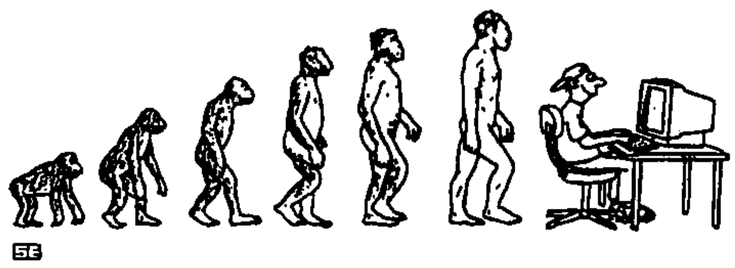
Suitably impressed, the time-and-motion wallah then staggered back to the Grey Lubyanka to compile a detailed report for Lord Hollick on his employees' eccentric interpretation of the Protestant work ethic.

ANDREW HOGG, former news editor of the *Observer* who spent much time there compiling reports on hacks who were disloyal to then editor Andrew Jaspan, hit problems in the first assignment of his new job.

Having left "liberal" journalism to be an investigative reporter at the *Daily Mail*, Hogg was asked "dig dirt on the Labour party". His first instinct was to seek help from former *Observer* hackette Eleanor Mills, whose stepmother is Labour wimmin's spokesperson, Tessa Jowell. But Mills — one of many Hogg victims at the *Obs* — politely told him to fuck off.

WHY is the *Guardian* so undismayed by the defection of columnist Suzanne "Fuck-Me" Moore to the *Indie*?

Simple. In his inexplicable desperation to get her, *Indie* editor Andy Marr has agreed to pay the whingeing hackette £80,000 — even though his paper is sorely strapped for cash. This can only mean he will have to dispense with several other hacks from his already tiny staff, thus weakening the *Indie* still further and giving a fillip to its main rival — which happens to be the *Grauniad*.



SE

DIRTY ANORAKS

THE *Observer*'s crusade against computerised child pornography has gone horribly wrong, proving once again that new technology and fuddled old hacks simply don't mix.

In a front page splash two weeks ago the paper labelled Clive Feather — a director of the UK's largest provider, Demon Internet — as "the school governor who sells access to photos of child rape". Feather and his company were denounced as "key links in the international paedophile chain".

In the most technical sense, this may be true; but it could also be said of practically every other internet provider in the world — including British Telecom. Whereas the contents of broadcast media, such as radio and TV, can be censored by jamming the transmitters, anyone can make a posting on the internet. To accuse Demon of being "pedlars of child abuse" is equivalent to holding BT responsible for everything said by its millions of subscribers during ordinary telephone conversations.

Short of closing down the internet altogether, the only feasible method of regulation is a voluntary system of "program-filtering" using passwords. This mechanism is endorsed by the department of trade and industry, Christian groups and Microsoft. But Demon argues from long experience that banning specific newsgroups only leads porn-merchants to send their material to innocent newsgroups, such as cookery — which can hardly be what the *Observer* wants.

One of many anoraks who objected to the *Observer*'s over-hyped "scoop" was Jack Schofield — who happens to be the computer editor of the *Observer*'s sister paper, the *Guardian*. He immediately cancelled his subscription to the *Absurder* in protest, and posted a form letter on the internet for readers to follow suit.

More embarrassingly still, it emerged that the *Observer*'s own World Wide Web site was none too clean itself. On the site the *Obs* made available the past columns of its regular writer on cyber-matters, Jim McLellan — one of which, conveniently labelled "sex", included so-called "hyper-links" enabling browsers to call up such evocatively-titled newsgroups as alt.sex.fetish.feet, alt.sex.fetish.diapers, alt.sex.bondage and alt.sex.spanking. All of these have recently been identified by the Save the Children Fund as "likely to contain child pornography".

Oddly enough, last Wednesday the *Observer* hastily wiped the McLellan archive from its site. Bill Thomson, who works for the *Guardian/Observer* online publishing, insisted the deletion was a "complete coincidence": since McLellan was no longer writing for the *Obs*, he had asked the "webmaster" to remove his material. From which one can only infer that the paper would have happily continued to provide its web readers with direct access to newsgroups "likely to contain child pornography" had it not been for McLellan's wholly unconnected request that the link be removed. Shome mishtake, shurely?

Meanwhile solicitors acting for Clive Feather and Demon Internet are now preparing to sue for libel, thus offering the possibility of a high court judge uttering the immortal words: "What *is* an internet?" After hearing that a writ was imminent, the *Observer* backtracked furiously last Sunday with a shamefaced editorial admitting that its coverage "betrayed a lack of understanding of the internet". But no apology was forthcoming. Instead, in support of its increasingly shaky case, the paper quoted from an unpublished report by the CCTA (the government computer advice agency). If the hacks had bothered to read the report, they would have noticed this warning: "ISPs [ie Internet providers such as Demon] should not be requested to act as censors." Oops...

STUDENTS of cyberporn will be fascinated to read a letter from one Stephen French sent to all members of the Internet Service Providers Association last month.

Using the age-old *News of the Screws* device of the shock-horror "we really must ban this" warning, French lists in detail 150 allegedly pornographic sites, at least 39 of them apparently specialising in paedophilia — including the full internet addresses of such delights as "pictures.lolita.fucking", "paedophilia.boys", "sex.enemas", "sex.bestiality.pictures", "teen.female.masturbation", "pictures.erotica.urine" and, most mysteriously of all, "pictures.erotica.disney".

Needless to say, within hours French's guide to criminal pornography was being rushed around the world to millions of net-surfers who had previously had no idea how to find such material. A leading UK internet ethics group denounced the list as "astonishingly irresponsible and quite deplorable".

No doubt Inspector Knacker will leave no stone unturned in tracking down the perpetrator of this outrage. The *Eye* suggests he head over to Agar Street, Covent Garden, and interview Chief Inspector Stephen French (for it is he) — a stalwart of Charing Cross police station's clubs and vice squad.

JUST FANCY THAT

"THEY'VE come home! *Mirror* Sport has outgunned Keegan and Fergie to land THE signings of the new soccer season. Yes, Skinner and Baddiel have joined the *Daily Mirror*, Britain's biggest and best paper for sport." — *Daily Mirror*, 15 August.

"In a previous article in the Matthew Wright column it was incorrectly reported that David Baddiel had been callously indifferent to the feelings of two former girlfriends who, our report alleged, had undergone pregnancy terminations... We fully accept that these allegations were totally without foundation... Accordingly, we have agreed to compensate Mr Baddiel and to reimburse all of his legal costs." — *Daily Mirror*, 16 August.

Are these two announcements by any chance related?

IN THE blood-spattered warzone that is the *Sunday Express*, fears are growing for the future prospects of one James Sherwood, a fey young man who joined the paper only a few months ago.

Although he was originally recruited as a secretary in the features department, his eye-catching work-oufits — gold lame "bolero tops" and gold lame shorts — soon convinced features editor Alison McDonald that he should be allowed to write about fashion.

And so, earlier this summer, he was sent off on his first big assignment — to Buenos Aires, where Eva Peron's old clothes were being put up for auction. His instructions were to buy one of her hats, which could then be offered as a competition prize.

Alas! Within hours of arriving in Argentina, young Sherwood had been thrown in the slammer — accused, quite absurdly, of making improper sexual advances to an off-duty policeman. Aghast at the potential embarrassment, his employers hastily hired the most expensive lawyers in Buenos Aires to secure his release and repatriation. Since then the poor boy has been on apparently indefinite "sick leave".

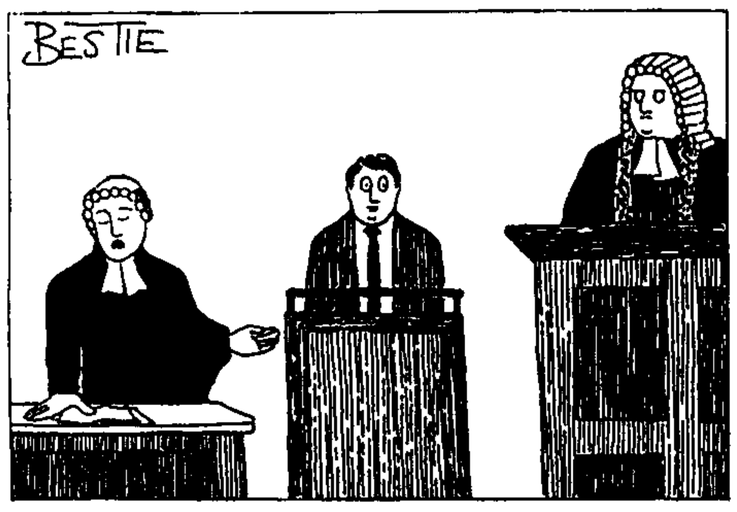
Express executives are desperate to suppress the news of his escapade. One of Sue Douglas's last acts as *Sunday Express* editor was to warn colleagues that "this story must *not* get into *Private Eye*".

***DAILY Mail* diarist Nigel Pratt Dumpster has lost none of his skill in churning out snooty drivel.**

When he needed some blonde bosoms to fill his page, a full-length photo of Sky sports presenter Gabby Yorath (*Who she? Ed.*) was found, and Pratt soon cooked up some "copy" to go alongside.

The inaccuracies are too numerous (nine) to mention, but included Dumpster marrying Yorath off (she is not even engaged) to a Royal Navy lieutenant whom the snobbish Pratt had upgraded two ranks from an officer cadet.

The diarist also quoted Yorath saying: "I went to a Dartmouth party with my husband and what did I do? I knocked champagne all over the commander-in-chief." In fact the commander-in-chief was nowhere to be seen and Yorath spilt champagne on the floor — but who cares: champagne receptions at Dartmouth's pukka naval college are what the *Mail*'s aspirant Sloanes want to read about.



Suing Loaded magazine for causing his repetitive strain injury made legal history

HALLO! THE HEARTWARMING COLUMN

HALLO! NOW Brian has finally divorced the she-devil Diana, there's been much blather about the "public" rehabilitation of the lovely, caring and virtuous St Camilla. Privately, however, the hopeless heir to the throne has certainly been energetically rehabilitating Mrs Parker Bowles — up to three times a week!

For when Brian is in residence at Highgrove, Mrs PB is smuggled in most evenings through a side-entrance with a highly orchestrated, military-style operation: the gates open without her car having to slow down, and then snap shut immediately. Obviously the lovelorn pair, ignoring lessons of the Camillagate tapes, are still communicating via mobile phones!

HALLO! BUT how on earth did the newspapers manage to glean so much information about Brian and Camilla's Welsh hideaway, after that fuzzy photograph of them appeared in the *News of the World*?

Folk in Brecon remained fiercely protective over the six years that the adulterous couple "liaised" at banker Nic Paravicini's elegant home (locals always knew of these "secret" visits, due to the presence of police protection units).

But after the snap appeared many were convinced the tip-off must have come from the royal entourage and were, naturally, furious — having forsaken large amounts of tabloid cash out of loyalty. Suddenly local royalists began returning reporters' calls. Where will it all end? Not happily, I fear.

HALLO! *IT HAS, however, ended for dinky little Jane Ward, Brian's former lover who had hoped to rescue her dire finances by writing a "tasteful" memoir (see Eyes passim).*

Jane, currently being pursued by bailiffs, has been playing hot and cold for months with distinguished London publisher John Blake. She had been hoping for £100,000, but was queasy about talking about, er, sex, a subject over which Mr Blake is not so, er, queasy.

Jane has long lamented that vulgar media persons only want to know "the size of his willie" and her reluctance has proved her undoing. Recently she accepted a sum not unadjacent to £2,000 from the Sun for some delightful but anodyne drivel ("Don't marry Camilla, Charles!") but this disloyalty to Mr Blake has resulted, I hear, in the book project going down the tubes (along with the £100,000).

Brian's personal measurements rightly remain a state secret.

HALLO! WHAT on earth can account for the bizarre behaviour of Liam Gallagher, lead singer of that popular singing group, Oasis ? After Liam pulled out of the group's tour of America, neighbours in his London street were bemused to see several motorbike couriers arrive, every day, with special deliveries — even when the house was besieged by Fleet Street's finest. What, the neighbours ask me, could require such a steady supply? I do not know.

HALLO! *FOLLOWING the Eye revelation (904) that Prince Philip's protegé, Professor Richard Whitfield, recently attended a Moonie conference in Washington, the megalomaniac professor has been forced to resign as chairman of the National Family Trust.*

The unpleasant Whitfield was forced to "resign" from the Save the Children Fund some years ago, but he still manages to cling on as Warden of St George's House, Windsor, the religious "think thank" founded by Philip — despite the fact that internal reports show he is disliked and distrusted by staff, who think he is "a bully who likes to pick on one individual, mostly women".

Curiously, the Buckingham Palace line on Whitfield's Moonie freebie is that it is "entirely a personal matter". But the St George's Constitution (section 6) states the Warden is entitled to undertake other commitments, "if such activities are generally to the benefit of the work or the standing of the House".

Consorting with the Rev Sun Myung Moon, while unacceptable to the National Family Trust, is clearly entirely agreeable to Prince Philip and the Anglican high command!

Cover Stories: Vampires
What is the literary origin of our fascination with the Dracula legend and gothic horror stories? Ian Docherty talks to historians, writers and a contemporary vampire.
Radio Scotland, 12 noon

Independent

HALLO! **ONE is distraught to read of the afflictions of one's devoted imitator, a sweet Uruguayan gel styling herself the "Marquesa" de Varela, who "writes" for a magazine called *Hello!* (or something equally silly). The London office of this "nice" organ, it seems, have waged vicious warfare upon the de Varela person.**

Smoothie Spanish owner Eduardo Sanchez Junco is in a complete funk. "Eduardo, 'e on the phone, every day, 'e cry, 'e beg me to stay," whispers Ms de Varela. "So? Now I play hard to get!"

The Uruguayan certainly knows how to play canny. Not long ago she was the go-between for a proposed book by La Freebiana's mother, Susan Barantes, to be published by none other than distinguished London publisher John Blake! "Susan," the 'Marquesa' urged, "We must 'ave Fergie an' Andy luf life. Otherwise you 'av no sale!"

In the end Mrs Baranates, like Jane Ward, could not face selling royal sex secrets, even for large amounts of loot. What she did not know, however, was that the "Marquesa" wanted 10 per cent ("off the top") for her role in this "project".

When the book wheeze floundered, the "Marquesa" craftily saved the day by signing up Susan Barantes for *Hello!*, where she was paid a ginormous sum for saying, in a seven part series, absolutely nothing at all!

'The Marquesa'

LAST year's Labour party conference was dominated by Tony Blair's breathless announcement that he had negotiated with British Telecom to connect every school and library to the internet, free of charge.

Apart from Tories who were outraged by a privatised BT (director: N. Tebbit) betraying them by currying favour with a right-winger like Blair, the phone company's rivals also criticized the deal. They pointed out that it would cost BT almost nothing to connect those schools not already online, and the company would then make handsome profits from access charges.

It was never explained exactly what BT, which is desperate to become a broadcaster, was ever going to get from a prime minister Blair in return. At the same time it was universally assumed BT would use optic fibre cable to provide the service. But given that the deal was done in secret, the exact nature of the virtual monopoly's undertaking is unknown.

Interestingly, immediately before the BT-Blair deal was announced (and several times since), the Labour leader had private meetings with Rupert Murdoch. Through a complicated cross-ownership of shares in the American MCI, Murdoch's News Corp has a substantial say in the fate of BT, as well as effectively controlling BSkyB.

Now, specifications issued by BSkyB to manufacturers for the decoders needed to bring 200 channel digital television to Britain next year, suggest that satellite dishes will be able to access the internet as well as Sky Soap, QVC etc. Thus do spooky things coincide...

WHEN the nationalised Swedish bus and rail undertaking sold its entire bus section SWEBUS to the British transport monopoly Stagecoach, Swedish television was naturally interested in the company's record.

It interviewed Brian Wilson, the MP for Cunninghame North and former Labour transport spokesman, who repeated his well-known opposition to the growing Stagecoach monopoly and its methods.

Stagecoach's adviser, Terrence Collis of Lowe Bell, sprang into action. Labour MPs Brian Donohoe (Cunninghame South) and Alan Meale (Mansfield) were summoned to the Stagecoach owners' castle near Perth where the MPs assured their hosts that Wilson no longer speaks for Labour on transport matters. Alan Meale was duly offered by Lowe Bell to Swedish television as a more sober and representative spokesman for "new" Labour.

GUNS LATEST

CASTLEREAGH borough council in east Belfast has two members of parliament who sit as councillors: John Taylor, the deputy leader of David Trimble's Ulster Unionists; and Peter Robinson, deputy führer of Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist party.

Council debates are often heated, but August's meeting saw Robinson get particularly upset about one of the recreation department's more popular amenities — a gun range. He told the meeting that a convicted IRA terrorist, paroled after serving 10 years, was a member of a gun club based at the council's Lough Moss range. This, he felt, was not the sort of service Castlereagh should provide and he demanded something be done.

For once even Robinson's rivals agreed with him, but the Royal Ulster Constabulary quickly made it clear that, although anyone convicted of a terrorist offence would not be personally licensed to hold firearms, members and guests at official gun clubs need not be individually registered. Thus anyone can join a gun club and enjoy as much target practice as they like provided the club's officers are prepared to sanction their membership.

With the police unwilling to become involved, councillors have told officials to prepare a report on available options. There are 39 licensed firing ranges in Northern Ireland, accommodating 42 gun clubs. They have an unknown number of active members — on top of the 88,170 individually registered gun owners approved by the RUC.

DESPITE the government's apparent support for a ban on the private ownership of handguns, it is far from certain it will result in legislation. One reason is the power of the gun lobby.

So far attention has focused on the 32 Tory MPs who shoot for recreation or have strong links with gun groups. Less well known are the MPs who are on the lobby's pay-roll.

The most prominent is Peter Atkinson, the Tory MP for Hexham who is parliamentary and public consultant to the British Field Sports Society. His annual fee is between £5,000 and £10,000. The noble society is an aggressive lobbyist which has drawn up a blacklist of police forces who have "harassed" applicants for shotgun certificates.

Another is Peter Temple-Morris, the Tory MP for Leominster and a director of John Kendall Associates PR Ltd, which represents the British Shooting Sports Council. Chaired by Lord Swansea, the council lobbied hard and successfully against the 1988 firearms bill. On that occasion it hired The Advocacy Partnership, but it did not make an auspicious start. On the day 300 shooting enthusiasts arrived at the Commons to protest, a homicidal maniac went berserk in Bristol and murdered four people with a shotgun.

'Backbiter'

"Oh, by the way – your father's got a new hobby"

SIGNAL FAILURES

LAST month's Watford Junction collision occurred at a fortuitous place for Railtrack, which axed more than half its rail-mounted emergency cranes to save money last October (*Eye* 885).

Railtrack's cranes had to travel to Watford from Crewe, 150 miles away, and Old Oak Common, west London, the latter journey involving some awkward manoeuvring. They were ready for action six or seven hours after the accident. Happily for Railtrack, London Underground was able to rush a rail-mounted crane to the scene and the Railtrack cranes were not needed until the day after the crash. Road cranes were also able to reach the site of the accident easily to carry out initial lifting work.

Accidents could happen away from London Underground territory and at the many points which are difficult for road cranes and fire-brigade vehicles to reach — for example, where the railway runs between buildings, on hillsides or cliffsides, along a sea wall, through forestry or across boggy ground. In those circumstances trapped passengers might have to wait hours for the arrival of one of the five rail-mounted cranes now left to cover the entire Railtrack system.

Perhaps the most disturbing scenario would be an accident at an inaccessible part of the extensive Strathclyde and Scotrail systems (which have had a fair few accidents in recent times). The nearest rail cranes are stationed in Teesside and Crewe, both roughly 250 miles from Glasgow and more than 400 miles from Inverness.

ONE of the scandals of privatisation is the over-fragmentation of British Rail in April 1994 when the network was prepared for the sell-off.

Much of the huge bill for privatisation (£550 million by the Tories' admission; around £1.5 billion according to Labour) was run up by splitting each activity of BR into its lowest common denominators; vesting each unit as an individual company; setting up the complex legal contracts required to formalise the relationships between the units; and selling off each unit, one at a time. The extent of the fragmentation was widely criticised beforehand and, as the sell-off progresses, bidders are ensuring that the commercial stupidity of creating so many divisions is partly corrected.

The four main freight businesses, which must have taken thousands of man-hours to organise out of BR's freight division, were sold to one bidder. Track renewal and infrastructure maintenance businesses were to be sold separately in each region but the units were so small they had to be paired in some areas to generate any interest among potential buyers.

Now the franchising director has decided that two adjacent franchises in the south-east (South Central and South Eastern) should be operated by the same company, French-owned CGEA, and two adjacent franchises in the west (South Wales and West and Cardiff Railway) should be awarded to Prism Rail. Meanwhile Stagecoach is embarking on a railway shopping spree (see last *Eye*) to give itself more scope than simply running someone else's trains on someone else's tracks to a timetable pattern prescribed by bureaucrats.

As the railway gravitates back towards units of a more natural and productive size, passengers can only ponder where the money spent on creating this ridiculous system (plus the money needed to keep it going) could have been invested had the railways been privatised in a few logical chunks, as a single unit — or not privatised at all.

'Dr B. Ching'

NOOKS and CORNERS

NO, it is not a joke. In the same batch of new life peers that has given us Lord Saatchi we also have an architect: Lord Rogers. But Richard Rogers is a "new" Labour peer, Tony Blair's choice; and the bronzed and relaxed sex-crazed dyslexic Reith-lecturing casually-dressed superstar and fashion accessory (© Bryan Appleyard) assures us he will campaign for better architecture and a better world in the House of Lords.

"He is a valuable addition to the Labour team in the Lords" — how appropriate, then, that he is best known as the architect of Lloyd's of London. After all, the completion of his let-it-all-hang-out masterpiece in Leadenhall Street inaugurated the moral and financial collapse of that institution. How splendid that someone who has so discredited capitalism should *become* a Labour peer!

Even dear Sir High Casson never received this ultimate accolade. In fact, while knighted architects are becoming two-a-penny, Rogers is only the third architect to have received a title. Not that the precedents are particularly auspicious. The first was Richard Llewelyn-Davies (1912-81), a now largely forgotten architect and planner, who was raised to the peerage in 1963 but as a Labour party nominee.

Lord Llewelyn-Davies was a grey and somewhat sinister figure, well connected with the party, who believed that a designer was like a scientist. A ruthless modernist, he believed in research and development and his influence is largely responsible for the factory-like new hospital buildings that disfigure the *land*scape of Britain. As professor of architecture and then of urban planning at the Bartlett School of University College London, he outlawed tradition and history and concentrated on churning out unquestioning little mechanistic modernists.

The second was William Holford (1907-75), South African born and another architect and planner, who was ennobled as Baron Holford of Kemp Town by Harold Wilson in 1965. So good looking and, by all accounts, ever so charming, Holford once did beautiful drawings of baroque buildings. But, with an eye to the main chance, he soon gave up that nonsense and took up modern architecture.

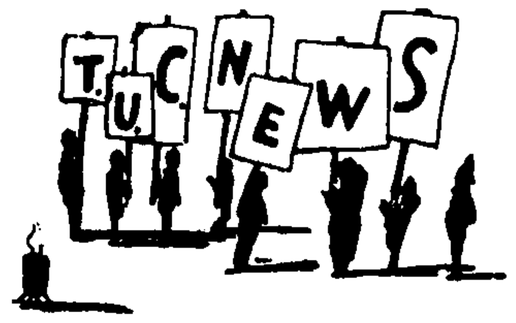
One of the great and good who sat on every possible committee, Holford was chosen by the then not Lord Palumbo to carry out his abortive tower in the City of London designed by the late Mies Van der Rohe. Perhaps Lord Holford is now best remembered as the planner responsible for rebuilding the Precincts of St Paul's Cathedral — a development which hardly anybody dares defend today and which even Richard Rogers once tried to replace.

So My Lord Rogers — of Leadenhall Street? — is in good company. And he may well be as powerful behind the scenes as were those earlier architect-peers. "We now have an authoritative and intelligent [sic] voice in the Lords," trills the president of the RIBA, Owen "Sod You" Luder. As I never tire of pointing out, Rogers and his erstwhile partner, Norman Foster, have reached a stratosphere of fame where they seem to be above criticism, although I was interested to read a recent editorial in *Building Design* which dares to point out how unfortunate it looks that My Lord Rogers is vice-chairman of the Arts Council responsible for doling out public money to revamp the South Bank and is also the principal of the firm responsible for designing the silly and gratuitous wavy glass canopy which is proposed to cover the Hayward Gallery and the Queen Elizabeth Hall and which will disfigure the admirable Festival Hall.

Not that Rogers, despite wealth and success, cares for criticism. Indeed, the slightest whiff of it induces the usual architect's paranoia. He has long tried to silence poor brave Mira Bar-Hillel on the *Evening Standard* with gagging writs, and now I learn that Rogers has managed to persuade contemptible, craven Penguin to withdraw the English edition of *How Buildings Work* by the American Stewart Brand, an excellent and sensible book which merely remarks, in passing, that there have been, um... a few practical problems with the Lloyd's building.

So much for free speech. So much for open and creative "debate" about architecture.

'Piloti'



RECENTLY the GMB union ordered its auditor, Deloitte Touche, to carry out an inquiry. It has resulted in the resignation of Nick Anderson, the union's boss in the north-east.

The Anderson family has had remarkable influence in the union. Nick's daughter Kirsty is the union legal officer. Her boyfriend Warren Maxwell is the union's health and safety officer. His mother Nancy Maxwell lives with the union's printing contractor (and prospective parliamentary Labour candidate for Jarrow) Eddie McAtominey.

Anderson's other daughter Fiona works as a clerical officer in the union's Middlesbrough office. She has two small children, who are looked after in the day by their grandmother, the wife of the regional secretary.

A union spokesman told the *Eye*: "Mr Anderson is no longer in post. He has applied for early retirement."

Meanwhile an internal inquiry is getting under way at another large union, the Amalgamated Engineering Union, into one of the outstanding figures in the union in the past two decades, the suave and recently-knighted Gavin "Credit Card" Laird.

Some union members were rather surprised to learn that in 1993, when he was the union's general secretary, Laird had joined the board of a Scottish firm, Murray Johnstone.

He was part of the Murray Johnstone team which arranged a buy-out of the privatised Manchester bus firm, Greater Buses North. His acceptance of this appointment surprised some of his colleagues, who recalled the union's hostility to bus privatisation. They were even more surprised to learn that Laird was paid a "success fee" of £100,000 for his part in the buy-out — especially since staff at the bus firm took a 6 percent pay cut to make the buy-out work.

As an encore, they (Oasis) play a dreamy 'Champagne Supernova', capped with fireworks — and you realise that that song is a perfect condensation of what Oasis are: a hedonistic, celebratory meteor, trailing and expanding tail of lumpy, destructive debris. Beautiful to admire from a distance, but you don't want to get too close.

SAM TAYLOR
Observer

"You can ask me anything," she said, shuddering deliciously at the prospect, as I brought forth a pen rather than a set of forceps. In fact she is someone who tells all without being asked, and during lulls in the storm of words, her body does the talking. She has the most loquacious hands I have ever seen. Wrapped around her as if they belong to someone else, they propelled her across the room in a giddy waltz: she happened to be telling me about a scene at a ball in the film script she is currently writing, about Yeats' infatuation with his muse, Maud Gonne.

At other times in our talk, they built stone walls to illustrate how paragraphs are assembled, climbed ladders when she described her literary ambition, concussed an invisible punching bag as she raged against reviewers, and administered a drubbing to their owner's back to vouch for her dedication to the task of writing: "I lash myself!" They are hands which have grown elegantly, prayerfully thin from being wrung; they are also — as I realised while surrendering to their

Pseuds Corner

entreaties — experts at manipulation.

PETER CONRAD interviewing
EDNA O'BRIEN
Independent on Sunday

In the astonishing Champagne Supernova, *when Liam sings "where were you when we were getting high?", he stands at the heart of one of those contradictions that make rock so powerful. The line is at once political (a rallying cry for the chemical generation) and heart-breakingly personal (there is a loneliness here that addresses the Gallagher brothers' fraught relationship with a father who abandoned them). It is a zeitgeist song for the Nineties. By accident or design, probably a little of both, Oasis are riding the tidal wave of history.*

NEIL McCORMICK
Daily Telegraph

"We all begin inside," Edna said. "It's a great mystery. We have no knowledge of it, or we dodge that knowledge." A character in *Girls in their Married Bliss* speculates about this ulterior realm, likening a woman to "the inside of a kitten's mouth". (I felt an involuntary shiver when I read this: wait a minute, aren't there teeth in there?) In *Time and Tide* Nell reflects on birth, when "the warm moist hush of an insideness is exchanged for the vast inhospitality of a creaking world"; the first homesick cry is our initiation into death. To exchange the dark moist hush of ancestral Ireland, with its "soft unruly underlay of bog", for inhospitable England is just as traumatic. The rending passage down the canal, or across the channel, are allied in Edna's perfervid imagination. Her aim is to reverse the rite of passage which ejects us into reality.

PETER
CONRAD interviewing EDNA O'BRIEN
Independent on Sunday

Like Mick Jagger, Liam Gallagher is blessed with a natural grace and a beauty made electrifying by sheer ego and arrogance. Liam exists totally in the moment, responding to the world without restraint.

NEIL McCORMICK
Daily Telegraph

"The miscarrying scene came to me in Dublin, like a visitation — though that's not what the Pope would have called it. I had no paper. I had to scribble it on bus tickets. It somehow eked itself through me." Her hands dabbled in her entrails. "Afterwards I was exhausted, I couldn't get up. Have you ever seen a water diviner? Suddenly the rod becomes a serpent, twisting and writhing. I'd say I was a word diviner." She became one and began to jangle alarmingly.

PETER CONRAD interviewing
EDNA O'BRIEN
Independent on Sunday

CONTRIBUTORS: K Bradnam, A Taylor, F Bolton, L McGowan, G Walsh, T Goldberg.

£10 paid for entries

EYE ITV

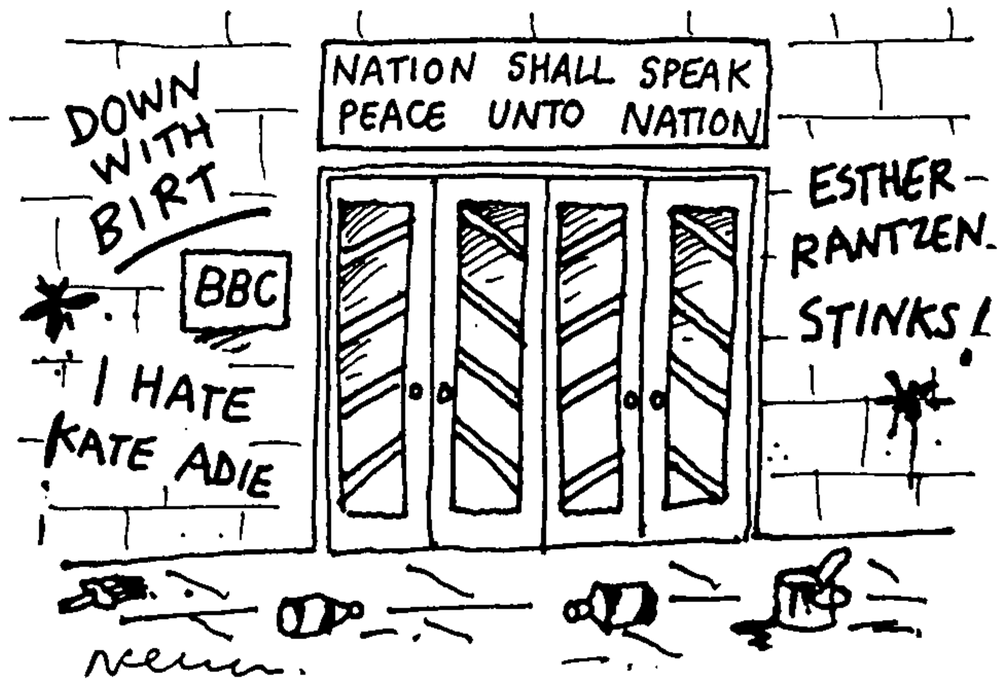
Autumn Schedules 1996

JUST as the queen celebrates two birthdays, so does television celebrate two new years, concentrating its major new programmes into two waves: January and September.

The second of these festivals is given additional piquancy by its proximity to the Edinburgh International Television Festival, the annual gathering of the clan at the end of August. Hence, traditionally, this period sees the launch not only of programmes but of rows and rumours.

This year has proved an unusually productive one for the industry with the launch of as many as three major new rows. And, in line with the corporation's regional policy, one of these was produced by BBC Scotland. The BBC's boss jock, Colin Cameron, took the opportunity in a debate at the Edinburgh Festival on the coverage of the Dunblane massacre to criticise Kate Adie, the chief reporter from the news and current affairs squad in London, for her "inappropriate tone" in her filing from the scene of the massacre.

This strange and undiplomatic intervention has variously been interpreted as rivalry between Anglo and Caledonian directorates or misogyny. In fact, the explanation is more interesting. Cameron was echoing a debate which has been taking place among BBC executives — about what is to be done with those television reporters who became identified in the public mind with war reporting and in particular with Bosnia. Does the style of reporting that developed in that conflict — agonised, accusatory, pained — adapt easily to domestic stories? Some feel that Adie and Martin Bell (who reported on the Manchester city centre bombing) now bring too much Bosnian baggage to the screen, rather like actors who have played one part for too long. The second row of the new season also originated in Edinburgh: John Birt's plea for an increase in the licence fee if the BBC is to maintain the standard of its programming. Long a master of bad timing and poor publicity, Birt excelled himself this time by asking for more of the public's money shortly after the revelation of a vast hike in his own BBC salary and at a time of the year when the schedules are packed with repeats and low-budget polyfilla. His intervention was mystifying and the only explanation circulating from the management suites is that Birt



was attempting to reassure his staff that he still believes in the licence fee because of the general assumption that his recent reorganisation of the corporation was an invitation to privatisation.

The third row was nicely timed to coincide with Edinburgh, but was ignited from outside. The BBC reporter John Ware wrote several thousand words for the *Sunday Telegraph* carving up his colleague Esther Rantzen for the alleged sloppiness and bad journalistic practice of a programme in her new BBC1 *Rantzen Report* series on the treatment by a residential home of a severely brain-damaged patient.

Rantzen's threat to sue raises the prospect of a vastly embarrassing libel case in which both plaintiff and defendant are employees of the same organisation. There is also the vital question of whether the BBC will bankroll Rantzen's case. The corporation quite rightly defends those of its employees who are sued for producing programmes, but financing an action with licence fees would be a different matter and it must be hoped that Saint Esther is left to pay her own way.

It would be nice now to turn from the rows to the forthcoming programmes, but, increasingly these days, the programmes are just rows waiting to happen. BBC2 promises a lesbian drama cheekily called *Giving Tongue* (a term from hunting, m'lud) and an anti-Blair satire. ITV's autumn schedule seeks attention by boasting of one of the most violent and disturbing series ever shown on British television: *Millennium*, an "adult" horror series from the creator of *The X-Files*.

ITV, though, should know all about horror shows, for its recent schedules have been full of them. Last week, it emerged that *All You Need Is Love*, the first series to be piloted as part of Anthea Turner's hugely expensive new ITV contract, will not be proceeding to a series. At the same time, it was announced that *Schofield's Quest*, the show for which Philip Schofield was lured for huge sums of money from the BBC, has been cancelled because of poor ratings. With Barrymore and Beadle and Aspel also recently having series axed, ITV's current crisis — of having stars all paid up with nowhere to go — shows no sign of relenting and remains the big story to watch as television's second new year of 1996 begins.

'Square Eyes'

MEDIA NEWS

THE spectacular incident in which an executive jet slid on to the main road from Oxford outside the MoD's Northolt airfield, and collided with a passing van, has demonstrated the rare quality of John Birt's improvements to the BBC's journalism.

First news of the event reached the newsroom at Television Centre from a keen young cameraman who lived close to the scene. But he was forbidden to go and cover the crash on the grounds that he was off duty and his camera was therefore uninsured.

An "on duty" camera crew took then two hours to struggle through the traffic jams from the centre of London. Tony "Head Prefect" Hall, boss of BBC news and current affairs, values his cameramen so highly he is shortly to make another seven redundant.

CUSTOMERS of cable company Nynex in Brighton were amused by its detailed explanation of a redesigned bill for TV and telephone customers.

The annotated guide was set out for a typical subscriber — whom a Nynex wag had named as "Mr Achtung Spitfeure". At least such jokes make a change from pulling up pavements and trees.

A GAGGLE of London drama critics was flown out to Epidaurus last Friday to witness Sir Peter Hall's production of *The Oedipus Plays*.

Participants in this jolly junket, organised by the Royal National Theatre, included Michael Coveney of the *Observer*, Paul Taylor of the *Independent* and Sheridan Morley — but not the amiable Benedict Nightingale of the *Times*. Why was he left out? Because his editor, Peter "Bubbles" Stothard, snaffled the trip for himself.

BIRTSPEAK

WHAT exactly is happening at the BBC? Sadly, the following extract from BBC Planning and Strategy's "Summary of Proposed Windowing Policy for the Supply of BBC Television Programmes to Non-Core Channels" (to be read in conjunction with fourth draft of main paper), gives no clue.

CATEGORY 1 Branded Bundles

Bundles must be managed by BBC Broadcast, in which case there would be no need for a formal process to protect the networks or other BBC or JV channels. In future this should be an integral part of the management process with detailed discussions with the network planning team.

The simple exploitation of such programmes must always be subservient to the needs of the networks and other BBC/JV channels in terms of potential marketing clashes and freshness of programming.

Mayor Jean Moore will be unveiling a plague on the building in Post Office Road and cutting a celebratory birthday cake.

Bournemouth Evening Echo

STARMANI TREK
DIGITAL AGE-THE FINAL FRONTIER...
THESE ARE THE VOYAGES OF THE STARSHIP BBC ENTERPRISE...
ITS FIVE YEAR MISSION TO EXPLORE A STRANGE NEW WORLD SERVICE...
TO SEEK OUT NEW CUTS AND REDUNDANCIES...
TO BLANDLY GO WHERE NO GREY MAN HAS GONE BEFORE!...
AND PRIVATIZE IT
"Trekkies all round!"
BBC
Ken Pyne

I-BSkyB

Church leaders threw away nearly £2 million by cashing in their BSkyB shares.

The Church of England missed out on £1.5 million and the Methodists lost £360,000.

They withdrew in November when the Playboy channel was launched.

Sun

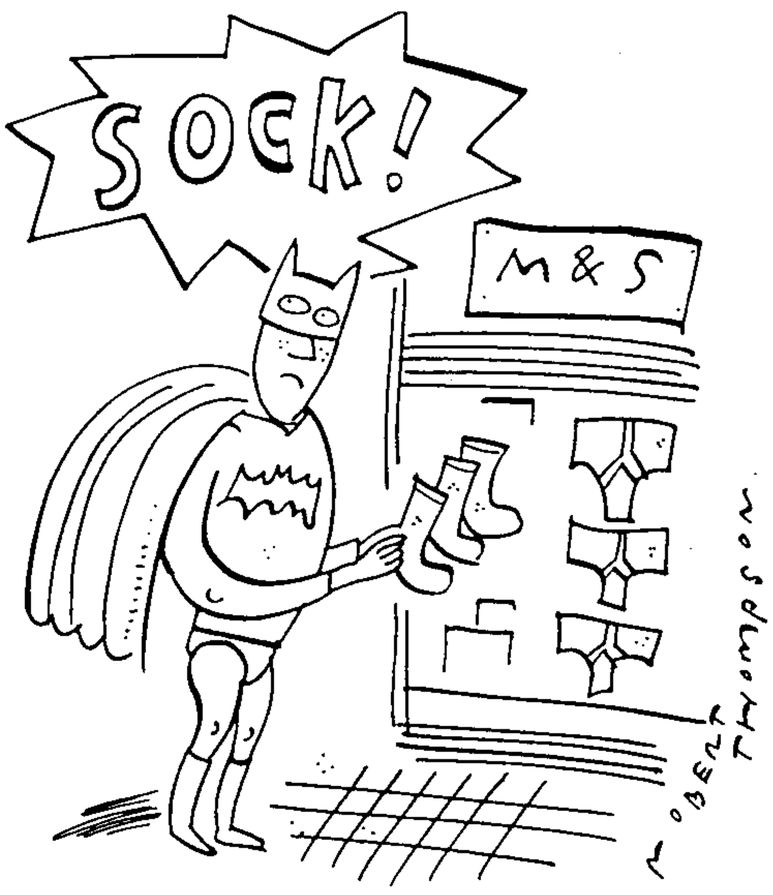
CONTRIBUTOR: Francis Harvey.

An occasional column for which readers are invited to submit Sky-plugs masquerading as news items in Murdoch papers. The usual £10 will be paid.

JUST FANCY THAT!

PARANORMAL tidings from the *Glossop Chronicle*'s own X-Files, which reported last month how Laverne Marshall, of Quarry Close, Glossop, had seen strange lights playing across her car's dashboard as she was "driving over a lonely moorland road".

The sighting was in no way linked to the the report elsewhere in the paper that a Ms Marshall of Quarry Close will be appearing before Glossop magistrates next month on charges of supplying cannabis and possessing amphetamines with intent to supply them.



WORLD OF HYPE

WHEN the International Public Relations Association appointed Rosemary Graham as its executive director, *PR Week* wrote a gushing review of her career so far.

According to the mag, it included a spell as head of public policy and communications at the RAC. In fact Graham was manager of the unit, a post below that of head, which was only created after Graham left.

While in this so-called post Graham "acted as an adviser to the Number 10 Downing Street Policy Unit and the European Directorates DG VII and XI". Er, no she didn't. She went to a meeting at Number 10 — once — with the RAC's director of public affairs; and she also visited Brussels once: not to give advice but for an administrative meeting of the European umbrella body for motoring organisations.

It must surely have been *PR Week* that hyped Ms Graham's CV to fever pitch as she would know that any "reinvention" would break the code of conduct of the organisation of which she has just become executive director!

HACKWATCH: MATTHEW WRIGHT

PIERS "Gormless" Morgan made his name as a showbiz columnist on the *Sun* with a simple but effective formula: PR agents would allow him to pretend that he was a "close chum" of their famous clients — Phil Collins, Gloria Estefan, etc etc — and in return he would print any old press handout they sent him, dressed up as "insider gossip".

Now that Morgan is editing the *Daily Mirror* he has hired the equally gormless Matthew Wright to repeat the trick, modestly billing him as "Britain's No. 1 Showbiz Columnist". Wright may not have quite the *chutzpah* of his mentor; but he's learning fast...

28 June: "Got any gossip?" Matthew asks his readers, imploringly. While waiting for some to arrive, he makes do with a plug for "my pal Peter Stringfellow", who recently appeared at the prestigious "Champagne Piper Nightclub Awards".

1 July: Still no gossip, so Matthew decides to plug a party thrown at "London's Thunder Drive club".

3 July: At last, a story! TV heartthrob Ian McShane of *Lovejoy* is a great fan of teenyboppers Boyzone and has visited their offices in west London. "Ian asked if he could get tickets for the next Boyzone concert," a studio insider reveals. "After he went someone started chanting 'Loveboy, Loveboy'. It was hilarious." Perhaps you had to be there.

8 July: Oasis star Noel Gallagher has signed a new contract with Sony, after Matthew "revealed" that a rival company was bidding for him. " 'I'm £10 million richer because of you,' Noel told me the other night at a showbiz bash. 'Your story really got Sony going. They came back with this new deal. It's a fantastic result, Matthew. Ta very much'." All part of the service.

10 July: A super soap-opera exclusive: *EastEnders* actor Russell Floyd "used to appear on stage with me! In 1982 we were both members of the Croydon Youth Theatre in South London".

16 July: "I am deeply concerned for my dear pal Kevin Lloyd after hearing that the boozy *Bill* star has been mysteriously ordered off set." Is there anyone in showbiz that Matthew doesn't know? Apparently not. Why, only yesterday he was rung by Tony Mortimer of the East 17 pop group. "The star [*sic*] tells me he's sick of ludicrous claims in other newspapers that his band is to break up. 'I keep reading these stories in your so-called rivals,' Tony tells me. 'East 17 will end when we've had enough and you'll be the first to know'." (Or not, as it turns out: a week later, Mortimer tells *Big* magazine that he's "bored in East 17. Will I quit? Yeah, I think so". Poor Matthew!)

26 July: Distressing news: Matthew has found a celeb who doesn't wish to make his acquaintance. At a top showbiz party in London's prestigious Savoy Hotel, Elton John "made a hasty exit as soon as he clapped eyes on yours truly. All I said was 'Hello' and Elton was out of the door."

30 July: Never mind: not all Matthew's pals have deserted him. At Oasis's Knebworth concerts next month, "the group are letting 7,000 people in free on each of the two days. Including yours truly, I'm delighted to say." Meanwhile, he sends "warmest congrats" to his megastar mates Caron Keating and husband Russ Lindsay. "I hear they are expecting another baby."

31 July: "I'm astonished to hear that rock bad boys Oasis have turned into clean-living health freaks." A likely story — but, as a confidant of the bad boys, Matthew should know. He has also enjoyed a "sneak preview" of their stage show planned for Knebworth, "which promises to outdo anything ever seen in Britain".

2 August: The scoops just keep on coming: "Radio One DJ Simon Mayo got goosebumps in his silky black pyjamas after evacuating his room at the Night Hill Hotel in Norfolk following a fire alarm."

5 August: Off to Scotland, where Matthew has a wonderful time at Oasis's Loch Lomond concert. "The Oasis bandwagon is going to continue to roll with it," he predicts, ecstatically.

9 August: Hold the front page: Matthew has been photographed with Arnold Schwarzenegger. "The star, who has just celebrated his 49th birthday, insisted we chat at London's Planet Hollywood before the *Eraser* premiere began." In return for this kindness, Big Arnie is given a full-page puff for his new film.

12 August: And so to Knebworth. Alas, the gig is "as flat as stale champagne". Perhaps all those *Mirror* readers who were lured along by Matthew's promise that it would "outdo anything ever seen in Britain" will ask him for a refund.

13 August: Matthew's uncharacteristic outspokenness has soured a beautiful friendship. "Noel Gallagher rang me in a rage yesterday, with a foul-mouthed rant against what he described as my 'sh**e' review of Oasis live at Knebworth." Gallagher reminds the hack that "we've looked after you, Matthew, quite a few times, and I thought you were all right... Well, that's the last time you have anything to do with my f***ing band." But Mr Valiant-For-Truth is not to be intimidated. "I'm sorry, Noel," he writes, "but I'm paid to tell *Mirror* readers what I think."

16 August: Matthew flies over to Ireland for an Oasis concert. A bit risky, surely, after Noel Gallagher's threats? Thankfully not: "Noel didn't recognise me yesterday when I sneaked backstage..." Most surprising. In a desperate effort to reingratiate himself, Matthew lavishes praise on the lads' performance: "Just wonderwall!"

19 August: A sad and solemn moment. Matthew has lapsed from his usual high standards, and is obliged to print one of the great corrections of our time: "Apologies are due to Nicky Clarke, the celebrity crimper whose clients include the Duchess of York. Last year Nicky, 37, was voted British Hairdresser of the Year. This year, Nicky was voted London Hairdresser of the Year. Nicky has never suggested that he is currently British Hairdresser of the Year, and many apologies to Nicky for any confusion caused by my earlier report."

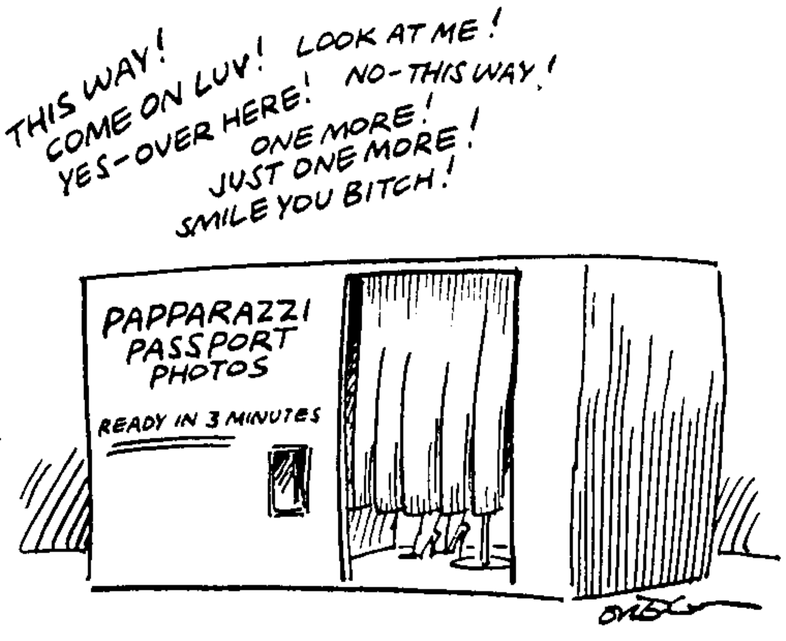
22 August: "Got a story?" Matthew asks yet again. "Give me a call..." But it's hard to see why he should need any assistance when he comes up with such splendid stories through his own intimate contacts. Like this: "I hear my macho pal John Alford has turned down the lead role in a *Robin Hood* pantomime in Sunderland this Christmas." Or this: "Congrats to my Virgin Radio breakfast DJ pal Jono Coleman — I hear his missus, Margot, is expecting again."

23 August: Or, indeed, this: "Congrats to my pal Jamie Theakston who has just bagged the male presenter job on the BBC's *Live and Kicking*."

26 August: Matthew is one of "a thousand VIP guests" invited to a freebie in Spain, held to promote the relaunch of Holsten Pils. Having enjoyed "unlimited supplies of free lager", he repays the hospitality by mentioning Holsten in large capital letters at the top of the page, and three times more in the text. What else are friends for?

28 August: Why has Liam Gallagher suddenly decided to miss the start of Oasis's American tour? In Matthew's expert assessment, the roots of his "inner turmoil" lie in "his rivalry with Noel". Liam's bad-boy antics have "often brought public put-downs from brother Noel, who would call him 'our kid' to humiliate the wayward singer".

29 August: Liam is jetting out to America after all, and Matthew can't resist a quick gloat. "Rumours of a rift with his brother Noel — touted by my so-called rivals — were quashed." These are obviously quite different from the rumours of a rift touted by Britain's so-called "No 1 Showbiz Columnist"...



DOING THE ROUNDS

PERFORMANCE-related pay is alive and well at London's St Thomas' hospital where services manager Rosemary Stilletoe last year shelled out half a million pounds to Richard Sage for a non-existent air ambulance service (*Eyes passim*).

Sage was only rumbled when he got greedy and tried the same scam at **Guy's hospital** and was subsequently convicted of fraud and sentenced to seven years. Stilletoe has fared rather better for her gullibility: promoted to deputy clinical operations manager at **St Thomas'**.

● **EAST Cheshire NHS trust** has launched a £2 million savings drive with managers, part of a surgical ward and assorted nurses facing the chop. **Newcastle's Freeman NHS trust** has a "projected £4 million funding gap", and has closed a surgical ward and invited 60 nurses to reapply for jobs elsewhere in the hospital. The trust's plight has not been helped by the decision of the city's **Avenues fundholding practice** to move £200,000 worth of cardiac and orthopaedic business elsewhere because of the long waiting times. Quite how ward closures are going to improve the situation is unclear.

● FUNDHOLDERS also hold the key to the well-being of **Truro**'s much publicised **Treliske hospital** (*Eyes passim*). **Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly health authority** has been ordered in court to increase the hospital's budget but hasn't the money to do so. So it has asked local fundholders to hand over £1.4 million of their savings. The hospital's plight is partly due to fundholding GPs sending their patients and money to local private hospitals which don't have to subsidise emergency treatment or pay for the chronically sick, and can therefore undercut NHS prices using NHS consultants. The fundholders have thus far refused to chip in.

● DOREEN ROBERTS, general manager of the radiology directorate at **Liverpool's Fazakerley hospital**, has sent an illuminating memo to local GPs. "Dear Doctor, the Magnetic Resonance Scanner will be operational from August. Open access is offered to GPs at a cost of £180 per scan with a guaranteed response rate of a week. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer access to non-fundholding GPs as no additional funding has been agreed with the health authorities. Hopefully this may be addressed in 1997/98, as we are keen to offer the same level of service to all GPs."

● AT **Morriston hospital trust** in **Wales**, chief executive Tony Beddow and chair Peter Allen have won a vote of no confidence from the consultants, who were unhappy about their plans to make three senior geriatricians and 12 other staff redundant.

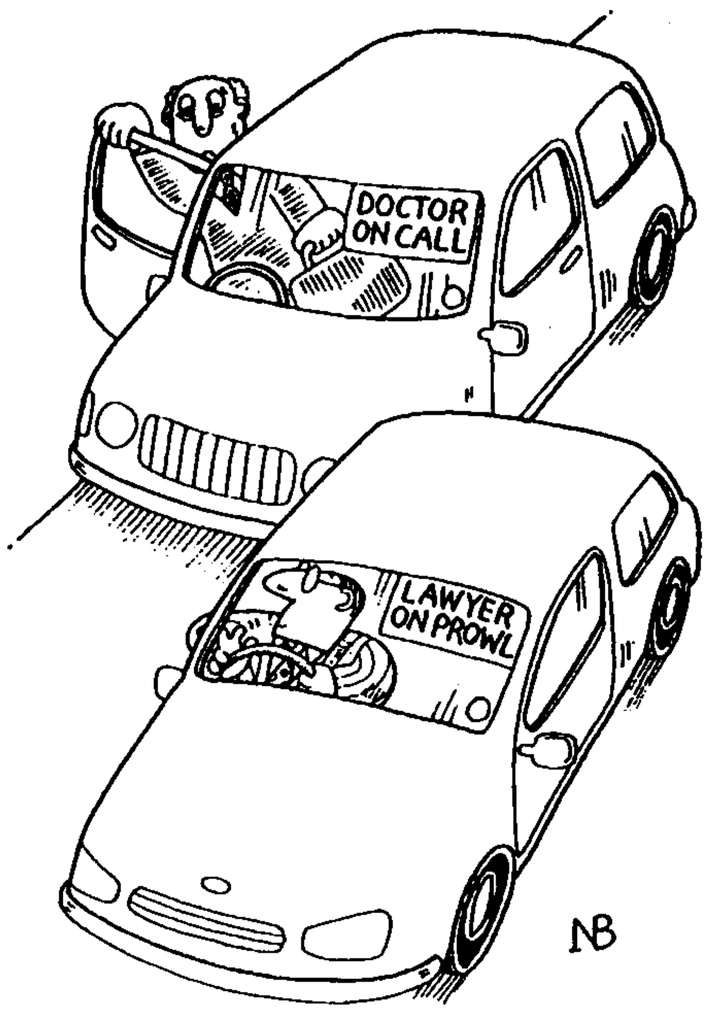
Iechyd Morgannwg health authority stepped in to reverse the decision, no doubt fearful that the action would have made an already understaffed area even less attractive. Beddow and Allen made their decision without consulting the clinical director or discussing the situation with the doctors concerned; but despite this cavalier behaviour, the trust's board decided to persist with them.

Eleven of Morriston's clinical directors promptly resigned from their administrative duties, forcing Allen and the majority of non-executive directors to resign their posts. Beddow has thus far refused to go, and the clinical directors have refused to resume their administrating unless he does.

● THE **Health Visitors' Association** is considering asking members to ignore useless NHS computer systems. Meaningless information input accounts for 7 percent of a health visitor's time with no obvious benefits. The **National Audit Office** is currently investigating claims that the NHS has wasted more than £500 million on pisspoor IT.

● **BROMLEY health authority** has banned GPs from employing Southern Relief Services, a private locum firm, after it allegedly employed just one doctor to provide emergency cover for 300,000 patients. Nine other health authorities have since joined the ban.

● **BEDFORDSHIRE health authority** has awarded £60,000 in research contracts to the **Institute of Health Services Research** at **Luton University**. The chair of Bedfordshire HA is Dr Tony Wood. The vice-chancellor of Luton University is, er, Dr Tony Wood. As Dr Wood put it: "I personally take no involvement whatsoever in the placing of these contracts."



● THE salary of audit commission controller Andrew Foster has leapt by 16.3 percent this year to £141,000. "This is not a rise proper," his spokesman said, "but a reclassification of benefits in kind"; £19,000 of it came in a performance-related bonus — no doubt for the commission's recent work in compiling 16 reports of "unlawful NHS spending".

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

PROFESSOR Mike Schofield, chair of **Bradford community NHS trust**, has for the last year been living in **Dorset**.

M.D.

DOWN ON THE FARM

WHAT is surprising about the latest "revelations" from Professor Roy Anderson at Oxford University — that 700,000 BSE-infected animals might have been consumed by the British public — is that it should be regarded as news at all.

Even to the fairly limited brains of many media pundits, it should have been apparent that a vast number of cattle sold for the meat market must have been infected.

What is even more surprising is that those self-same pundits have been unable to put two and two *together*. At a conservative estimate 700,000 cattle amount to some three billion portions of beef, enough for the whole UK population 60 times over. With still only 12 "new" strain CJD cases having been reported, at the very least this would seem to indicate that the chances of catching CJD from infected beef — if they exist — must be pretty minuscule.

But what seems to have outraged Professor Richard Lacey, the self-appointed expert on all things BSE, is Anderson's projection that mad cow disease will effectively be eradicated by the year 2001. Accusing the ministry of agriculture of "lying" and "deceit", he rails against Anderson, claiming there is "very serious corruption". The trouble, he finds, is that "so many prophetic scientists need funds from government to keep going. Therefore they lie in order to get their funds".

Why Prof Anderson should be lying, when his data and the calculations based upon them are a matter of public record, has not been explained by the egregious Lacey. Furthermore, as Anderson is head of the Wellcome Centre of Epidemiology and Infectious Disease, and is already well-funded by pharmaceutical interests, Lacey fails to explain why MAFF money should be so vitally necessary that a self-evident conclusion should be so tainted.

Perhaps Lacey's real problem is that, as the BSE epidemic goes into decline — with no sign of the CJD epidemic he has so confidently predicted — he is fast running out of scope for his scaremongering. Only by upping the ante is he able to make any contribution to the debate. For a man who has made his reputation by prolonging and magnifying food scares, his biggest concern must be that he is running out of material to use.

IF Professor Lacey is fast running out of options, so too is another fellow traveller in the BSE debacle: the self-styled persecuted saint by the name of Dr Harash Narang, who has been touting his ideas for a urine test to diagnose BSE and CJD.

Failing to get official support, he has half-managed to convince a group of farmers, banded together under the "Northern Beef Farmers Action Group", to fund continuing work on his test. But as former *Independent* journalist Emily Green reported in the somewhat unexpected forum of the *Guardian* newspaper, Narang's work might be just as suspect as Lacey's claim for a mass epidemic of CJD.

Not least, Narang bases his test on the detection of a novel "virus" which, it seems — despite well-founded scientific evaluation — only he can find. The Northern Beef Farmers are now by all accounts beginning to think again about whether to sink their hard-earned funds into so dubious a venture.

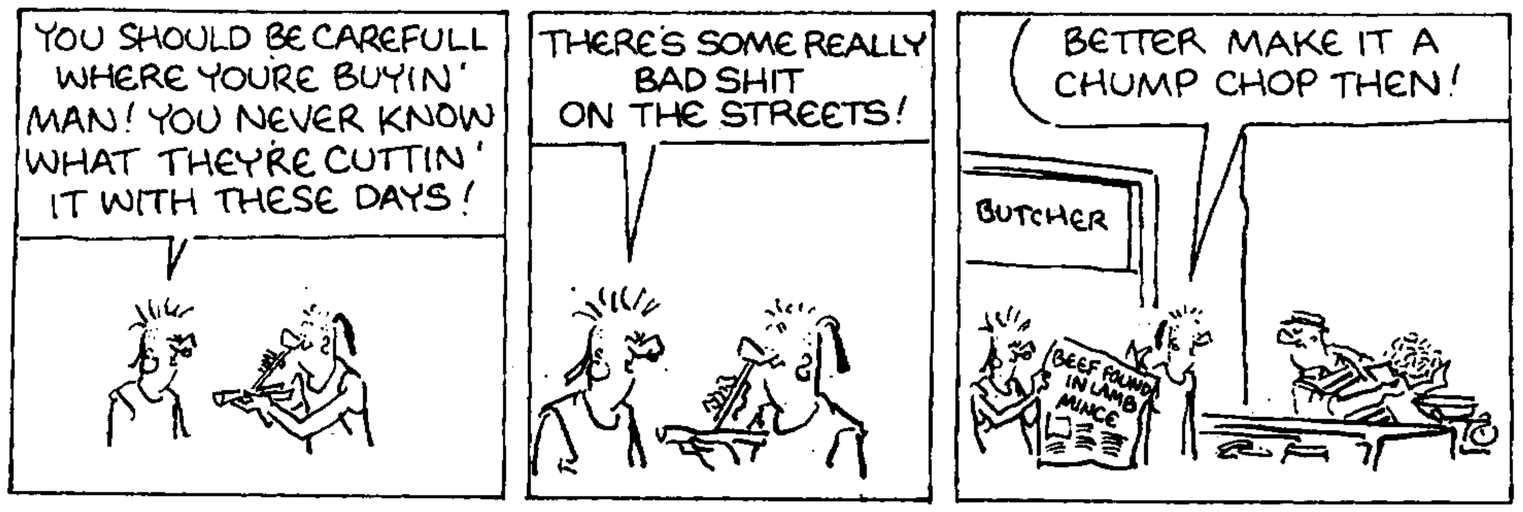
THE singular evil represented by the BSE fellow-travellers, who exploit genuine concern over public health probes, is best illustrated by a recent report about suicide in the rural community of Powys in Wales. This area has the highest rate in the UK, with 58 deaths between 1992 and 1994, a disproportionate number of which were farmers or farm workers.

Contributory factors, according to clinical psychologist Leslie Pollock, include the increasing isolation of the rural way of life, the "burden of farming administration" and "regular exposure to organophosphorus (OP) chemicals". But that was before the BSE crisis took hold. With at least six farmers now having committed suicide after being ruined by tumbling beef sales, the scare itself is now set to become a bigger killer than the disease on which it was based.

'New Muckspreader'

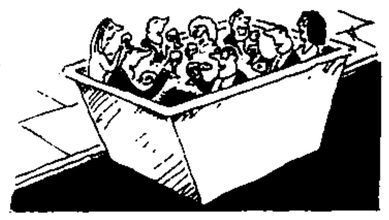
Old Macdonald

ALBERT


YOU SHOULD BE CAREFULL WHERE YOURE BUYIN' MAN! YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT THEYRE CUTTIN' IT WITH THESE DAYS!
THERE'S SOME REALLY BAD SHIT ON THE STREETS!
BETTER MAKE IT A CHUMP CHOP THEN!
BUTCHER
BEEF FOUND IN LAMB MINCE

THE
Rotten Borough Advertiser

Friday, 6 September 1996



COVER UP AND CARRY ON

HACKNEY's Labour councillors appear to be playing politics in the Mark Trotter paedophilia scandal, one of the worst crises ever to hit the borough.

Rather than concentrating on trying to trace young people who were in care and whom Trotter might have assaulted and infected while working for the council — he died of AIDS last year — some councillors are trying to cover their backs.

This seems especially true of those who support former council leader John McCafferty and who hope to regain control of the council now that current leader Nick Tallentire has become enmeshed in the scandal. They are trying to stymie attempts by the opposition to set up an independent inquiry into the affair (which took place under McCafferty's reign), and instead want to hand everything over to Inspector Knacker. This is a bit late considering Trotter's unavailability for questioning.

More sinister are the reports that Hettie Peters, a former chair of social services, has received death threats for her part in trying to expose the Trotter cover-up.

Meanwhile the *Eye* has learnt that Trotter's former flat in Moresby Road, Clapton, has had its entire contents, save the floorboards, taken away. The flat has been sealed since his death.

Over in social services, no one in charge has been suspended yet. But no doubt suspensions are being eagerly discussed by director Joyce Moseley (who is married to senior Labour councillor Tony Allen, a McCafferty supporter), and assistant director Dynah Morley (a former Labour councillor and failed Labour prospective parliamentary candidate).

ALL YOU NEED IS, ER, MONEY

THE Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts — aka LIPA, or the Paul McCartney Fame School — is fast becoming a white elephant as its building costs overshoot by £5 million to £15.5 million.

Chief executive Mark Featherstone-Witty, who is not accountable to any democratically elected body, denies mismanagement while blithely reassuring the press: "If you look at the CVs of people here [ie at LIPA] including myself, doing up grade II listed Georgian buildings is hardly a significant feature." This must be a big consolation to taxpayers who, one way or another, have contributed £8 million to LIPA.

Because LIPA is a joint private-public venture, Featherstone-Witty believes "no one would let it go down". The £2 million to £5 million he hopes to raise to keep the school open is expected, by implication, to come mainly from the public purse.

Meanwhile LIPA's students basically comprise rich kids from Germany, Scandinavia, Japan and the United States. This would not matter if they were funding the school's construction, but they are not. Instead the taxpayer is providing for the piper but not calling the tune. This is ironic given that Liverpool city council is so hard up it can't even afford to give discretionary grants to any of its own youngsters to study at the school founded by Liverpool's most famous living son.

DIDN'T THEY DO WELWYN?

WELWYN HATFIELD council faces a £48 million legal bill and the prospect of a services wipe-out over the next few years after over-zealous planning officers signed agreements with two firms to build rival suburban leisure and shopping developments.

Slough Estates won council approval to build a retail centre, while the Carroll Group was given the chance to develop a leisure centre, the Galleria.

When the Carroll Group started finding it hard to fill the Galleria, a council sub-committee (of mainly Labour councillors) relaxed the Carroll Group's conditions and allowed it to include shops. Slough Estates, who had already built its centre, claims it would never have gone ahead had it known there would be a rival. M'learned friends agree and the high court has found in Slough's favour, awarding compensatory damages of £48 million which the council — ie taxpayers in the garden city, and not the inept officers or councillors — must pay.

BILL AND BENT

TORY councillor Bill Duffin won't be too happy when he sees the ombudsman's report into corruption in Bent planning department, which is out in mid September.

Back in 1994 the former housing chairman presented planning officers with an application to develop the upstairs of the Kingdom pub on Kilburn High Road into a restaurant run by his boss, local wheeler-dealer Jim Carlon.

Interestingly enough, Carlon (who has since died) had just donated £4,500 to the local Tory association to fight the upcoming elections, and the Tories rushed through his application to prevent Labour (who were expected to win the elections) taking over and rejecting it.

Worse still, before the planning committee discussed the matter some Tories were heard to say: "The chairman of the association will be very upset if this [the application] doesn't go through." The smart money is on Bent being charged with maladministration.

RED FACES OF THE WEEK

SUKHBIR DHALIWAL, vice chair of Hounslow council's environment committee, helped produce its new document on conservation, tree planting and looking after the environment. He now faces criminal proceedings for, er, hacking at the plum trees in his garden and flouting planning regulations in a conservation area to build a summer house out of breeze blocks.

● TO cut the number of motorists hitting cows on a stretch of road near Stroud, Gloucestershire council's highways department painted warnings on the road — large triangles of a black cow on a white background. No sooner had the signs been installed than another department covered the signs with tar and grit. The council has now restored the original signs — and wasted around £10,000.

IN BRIEF

MANCHESTER: Global Forum, which failed to organise a convincing rerun of the Rio earth summit in the world's ugliest city two years ago, continues to plague taxpayers. In 1994 it was bailed out with £1 million of public money; and now local businessman Ken Taylor has won a court case against it for breaking a contract with his company to raise sponsorship for the event. The case has cost the city £500,000 in costs. It will mount an appeal which it will no doubt lose — costing locals even more.

HILLINGDON: Social services director Julia Ross quit after it was revealed how the Labour council had spent £12,000 on phonecards for refugee children arriving at Heathrow airport. Normally the children make contact with parents via the Red Cross or by post; and the phonecards (Ross's idea) antagonized officers who had already overspent and were worried about their jobs. Their leak to the press caused so much embarrassment Ross had no option but to quit.

LEICESTER: Even Labourites used to local in-fighting were shocked by the uproar after the selection of Patricia Hewitt as local MP. While national party organisers found no impropriety in her selection, Labour city councillors are looking into alleged misuse of council resources: a council press officer was apparently willingly answering questions for the Hewitt campaign — not exactly council business. Hewitt's campaign was supported by her former agent Stewart Foster, the Labour councillor who staged a coup against autocratic council leader Peter Soulsby. Soulsby then regained control after a scandal involving Foster giving favours to a close lady friend on the council. Observers wonder if squeaky clean "new" Labourite Hewitt can keep control of such a mess.

MID-BEDFORDSHIRE: Labour councillor Peter Malyon has given a novel explanation for his behaviour at council meetings: metal fillings in his teeth are apparently acting as an aerial for government agents who are beaming dangerous thoughts into his head. This makes him want to vote Tory in debates — although so far the opposition councillor has resisted the temptation.

O·B·N

Michael Hutchence does more than just sit about strumming chords. He is, she says, a kind man who wants to be a father and he is a clever man who reads Margaret Thatcher's memoirs. In fact, "Michael is like Oscar Wilde, a total genius — accepted by a small band of gays, artists and aristocrats but misunderstood by the world at large".

GERRY AGAR, PR Woman
Sunday Telegraph Magazine

Submitted by Anna Lomax.

£10 paid for all entries put forward for the Order of the Brown Nose.

JOBS

HUSBAND

Could I have a word about the sticker on your rear window
what the road safety one?
Yes Sir that one
YOU'RE DRIVING TOO CLOSE FUCK OFF!

Letters

Truth to tell

Sir,

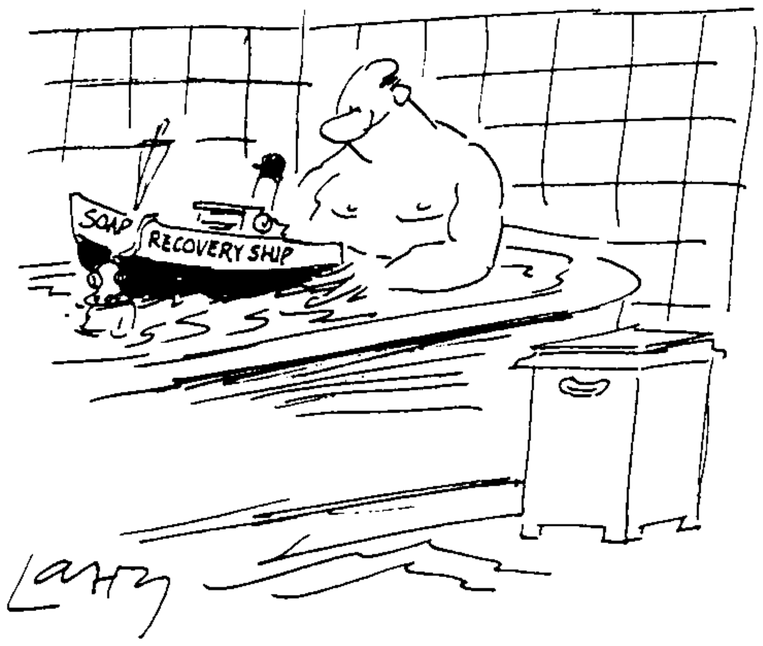
Whilst I find most of the scurrilous things written about me and friends in PRIVATE EYE *amusing I am slightly upset by the totally duff misinformation you are being fed about our book,* THE NEMESIS FILE *by Paul Bruce.*

This is the book which has been successfully portrayed as a "fantasy" by the RUC. In fact the contents of this book are entirely true. The RUC were given details of the author's real name and military service number more than six months ago and were invited to interview him. They declined this invitation. After the Prime Minister was repeatedly asked by MPs about the contents of the book, seven police officers descended on the author, hauled him off to Belfast and locked him in a cell. He was then given the stark choice of standing by his claims — and being charged with murder. Or of signing a statement in which he claimed to have made the whole thing up. Not surprisingly, he chose the latter option.

This does not prove he is a liar. It proves the Government is deeply concerned to quash his allegations. The author has revealed that his unit buried victims at Ordnance Survey map references 160534 and 182925. It would take one man with a JCB a day to excavate either of these sites — a considerably less expensive operation than flying seven officers to the UK overnight to arrest a man.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BLAKE,
Managing Director, Blake Publishing Limited.

● *See Bookworm*



Rescue bid

Sir,

PRIVATE EYE *is to be congratulated on its article "On the Lifeboats", which exposes many of the shortcomings of this very powerful, inflexible charity. It seems perfectly acceptable for this charity to have a total monopoly within the marine rescue environment of this country. From the dealings I have had with this charity aver a six-year period, it has become plain to me that the RNLI need to be replaced with a professional marine rescue service with full-time employees, perhaps allied with HM Coastguard, with full accountability.*

Unfortunately at West Kirby on the Wirral we have fallen victim to the RNLI's building programme: they have positioned a large "urinal" type building, four times the capacity of the previous base for the same size craft, in a public park and directly in front of the lounge windows of seven town houses. The public is told that these RNLI buildings also win Design Council Awards, surely they don't expect us to believe that propaganda! The RNLI building programme has already had a major impact on a number of areas up and down the country, spoiling coastal towns with their hideous buildings and antagonising many people.

Yours sincerely,
MRS B MELLOR,
West Kirby, Wirral

A rough trade

Sir,

Your "On the Lifeboats" feature was all at sea.

Regarding damage to lifeboats in heavy weather, what's new? **All** *classes of lifeboat have* **always** *suffered damage in extreme conditions. It cannot be prevented as long as lifeboats go to sea in all weathers. But* **life-threatening** *damage has been almost entirely eliminated by excellent design and construction.*

The RNLI needs all-weather lifeboats of different types for different launching methods. Your article muddled them up.

The classes replacing the "trusty old Arun and Waveney boats" are the Severn and Trent respectively. Eleven Trents are already on station, and going well after some early engine and transmission problems (rectified without charge by the manufacturers). The first Severns will be delivered soon, after some remedial work to correct a relatively minor weakness identified a few months ago. I will send you a fiver if any crew refuses to accept delivery of a Severn when it is offered.

Your bilge about bilge keels applies to the Trents and Severns, not the Merseys. The point about these protective keels is that in the very worst of sea conditions, or when pounding on a sandbank, something has to give, and these keels are designed to break off under excessive load, otherwise a hull might be damaged.

The first ten Merseys were built in aluminium and the rest in fibre reinforced composite. Boats of either material are light enough for carriage launching (about 14 tons) and at least as strong as the slow, wooden, "traditional" boats they replaced.

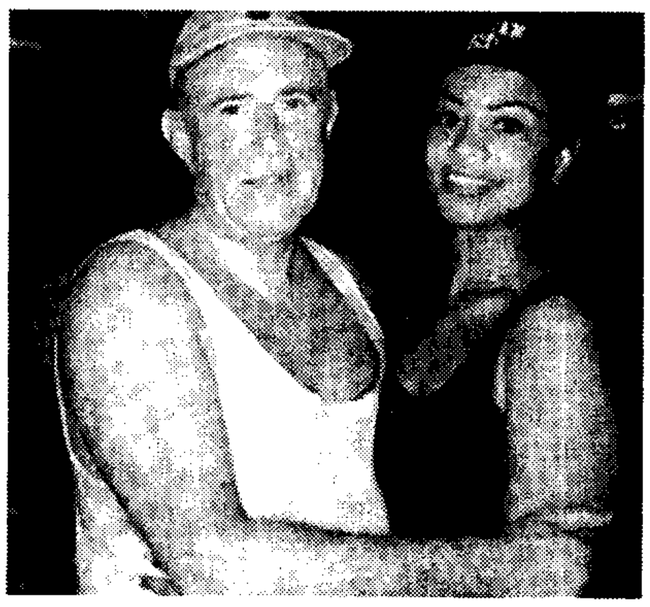
The stuff about fuel-guzzling engines, expensive propellers and "tunnel guards" (what they?) is baloney. The 285hp Caterpillar diesels in the Merseys perform well, as expected. Boats launched by carriage (or slipway) need fully protected sterngear.

Access to survivors' cabins on small classes of lifeboat has always been difficult. It's through a hatch and down a ladder, or through the engine room. The Mersey is no worse than its predecessors in this respect. I can't think of a better solution. Can you?

Your comments about anchor stowage and "what might happen if the lifeboat's own engine failed" are hopelessly adrift. First, all vessels' anchors and anchor chains are stowed at or near the bow: it's the best place. Lifeboat crews (like everyone else) have always dropped and recovered anchors from the foredeck. The only difference is that lifeboat crews always wear lifejackets with integral safety harness. Second, all-weather lifeboats since God-knows-when have had twin engines.

Whoever researched your article is an ignorant bastard. Tell him to make a large donation to the RNLI. And not to get into danger at sea.

Yours,
D.A. GODFREY,
Littlehampton, West Sussex



Tall order

Sir,

EYE *905 states in its Hallo! column that Andrew Neill's friend, Lisa, is a 6'2" blonde model. Am I the only reader who would enjoy seeing a photo of the couple?*

Sincerely,
JAMES R HANNAY,
St Leonards-on-Sea.

Black Hole

Sir,

New Muck has been warning of the risk of E. Coli infected meat spreading to this country from Germany. I am sure if he looked hard enough he could find many virulent and productive sources of these bacteria much closer to home. He could start by looking up his own bottom. I guarantee success.

Yours sincerely,
IVAN VIEHOFF,
Chesham, Bucks.

Lookalike

Rod **Di**

Sir,

I wonder if any of your readers have noticed the remarkable resemblance between Princess Diana and Mr Rod Stewart?

Could they, by any chance, be related and do they both share the same hairdresser?

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN LEEDHAM,
West Ewell, Surrey.

Enterprise Zone

Sir,

In 905 mention was made of an unbroadcast episode of STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION, *which mentions the "re-unification of Ireland in 2024" which the BBC never broadcast to avoid offending Unionists.*

The episode was called "The High Ground". In fact, the episode was banned because its scheduled transmission date coincided with the date of Judith Ward's appeal against her conviction for the M62 bus bombing.

The plot is as follows: on the planet Rutia IV, a terrorist group called Ansata destroys a "shuttlebus", causing the death of a party of schoolchildren. This action causes the hitherto liberal Rutian Minister of Security, Aleaxana Devos, to lose any sympathy she may have had for the Ansata's demands for self-determination, and to enact draconian anti-terrorist laws.

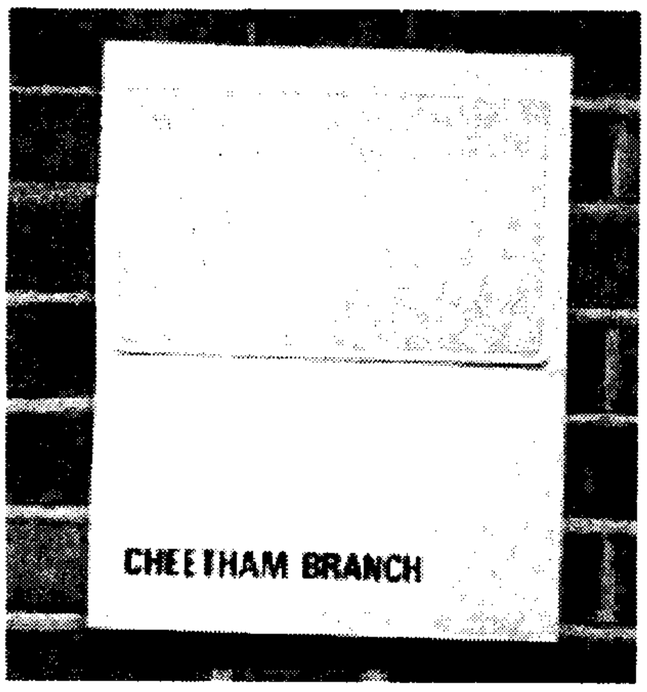
The similarities between Rutia and Ulster, Aleaxana Devos and Roy Jenkins, the shuttlebus and the bus on the M62, proved too much for the BBC, who have yet to show the programme.

The other episode of ST:TNG *featuring a colony of caricature Irishmen is called "Up The Long Ladder", in which the evacuation of the colony Mariposa I causes a series of comical incidents, most memorably the scene where Lt Worf, irritated by one man's complaints of not being able to get "a real drink" out of the ship's food & drink replicators, gives him a shot of "Klingon chech'luth", which renders his unconscious in a second.*

The episode of LOU GRANT *that dealt with the Ulster question did not portray the IRA favourably. Lou himself objects to the presence of a NORAID collecting box in his favourite bar. The only IRA man featured is a sinister silhouetted figure in the back of a car, delivering an IRA manifesto in an unpleasant rasping voice. At the end of the programme an attempt by the IRA to kill an informer, in hiding in the US, with a car bomb results in the death of a child.*

Yours,
KEITH "Anorak" ACKERMANN,
Tilbury, Essex.

I-SPY *Manchester*



Submitted by Shelagh Bayley. £10 paid for similar submissions. *(SAE required for return of photographs. No transparencies.)*

On the wrong track

Sir,

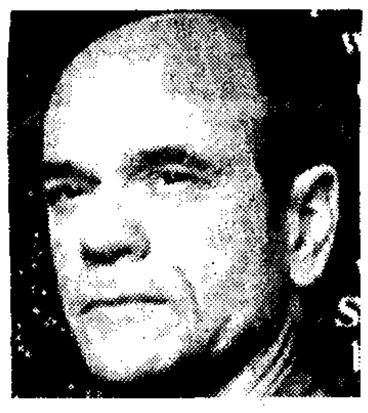
I find myself having to write to you for the third time this year to correct certain fundamental inaccuracies in your articles. At least on this occasion on a different topic, namely, your report in the August 23 edition on Glenda Jackson and her statement that Hanson had made massive profits out of rail privatisation.

Hanson Trust (renamed Hanson PLC in December 1987) has not been involved, in any way, in rail privatisation. Unlike her performance in the Hanson commercial, where she got her facts on Hanson right, this time Glenda Jackson now has them completely wrong.

Perhaps it would be helpful if in future you were to check with us before copying political inaccuracies verbatim.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM DRANSFIELD,
Legal Director, Hanson.

Lookalike



Kenyon

Hologram

Sir,

Has anyone else noticed the remarkable resemblance between Nicholas Kenyon, the director of the Proms, and the holographic doctor from Star Trek Voyager? Could they possibly be related? I think we should be told.

Yours sincerely,
AIDAN LANGLEY,
Guildford, Surrey.

Top dosh

Sir,

As chairman of the wise and eminent citizens who distribute national lottery dosh to sport (EYE *903), I should be very interested to hear from the non-political Felixstowe Bowls Club who seem to think they have been turned down flat. Such a decision would only be possible if they had actually applied — and they haven't.*

The equally non-political Felixstowe Conservative Bowls Club, on the other hand, did apply and were eventually successful after they had demonstrated how separate they are from their founding patrons, the Conservative Club, who have not sought any political subscriptions for some time and have now granted them a lease. These were conditions of the Lottery Sports Fund award, as is the requirement to make the divorce absolute by dropping the "Conservative" name-tag, which could deter some potential bowlers!

Good to know you're taking an interest in our honest endeavours. Let me know if you find any genuine mistakes!

Yours faithfully,
TREVOR BROOKING,
Chairman, Lottery Sports Fund Awards Panel.

Wales on Wales

Sir,

You were wrong to try to get a cheap laugh out of Hewitt sired a prince story. You lot have enough public school experience to know what damage you were causing.

It won't but it should haunt you.

A. WALES.

Colemanballs

£10 paid for contributions

"I've got ten pairs of trainers. That's one for every day of the week."
SAMANTHA FOX, The Sun
(Daniel Witter)

"The 5,000 or so volunteers are breaking their backs to make sure it's a success."
Radio 4 (on the Paralympics)
(G. Shenton)

"He is a harmless vagrant who already has a criminal record for rape..."
JOHN SUCHET, ITN
(Andrew Jackson)

Richard Keays: *So Roy, do you think that to win this championship you'll have to finish above Manchester United?*
Roy Evans *(Liverpool Manager): Actually Richard, we'll have to finish above everyone.*
SKY Sports
(James Dowling)

"Mars must be one of the most inhospitable places on earth."
BBC Radio Leeds Presenter
(Richard McIlray)

HOM SAP

AUSTIN

ARE YOU AN ECONOMIC MIGRANT?
NO-NO!
SO YOU'RE NOT JUST HERE TO GET A WELL-PAID CUSHY JOB?
NO-NO!
GOOD. I'VE GOT A JOB FOR A CLEANER. TEN PENCE AN HOUR.

Letter from

Bujumbura, Burundi

from Our Own Correspondent

IS IT possible to dispose of three presidents (one murdered, one overthrown, one killed in a suspicious plane crash) in less than three years, step up the massacre of rural peasants from 50,000 a year, kick start a civil war into the real McCoy and still be allowed to rule?

Apparently, yes. For in Burundi, such a pedigree classifies the Tutsi minority-tribe gang who have just seized power from a majority-tribe Hutu president as "moderates". Preparing for another round of boule under the mango tree at Bujumbura's Novotel, one tribal war-weary diplomat said: "In Burundi, a coup and its chef, Pierre Buyoya, may be the least worst option."

The keys to this international sleight of hand are well understood here. Placate a few foreign friends in high places; ensure your country enjoys complete geo-political and economic insignificance; exploit a Central African American-French power struggle as intense as your own Hutu-Tutsi rivalry; and make sure the army kills so indiscriminately no outside power dare send troops for fear of getting caught in the slaughter.

All these conditions are now being masterfully met. Having sacked the three most senior "hardliners" in the security forces, Buyoya has earned himself friendly chats with foreign negotiators and diplomats who officially insist they recognise neither him nor his government. The fact that known Tutsi hardliners have been replaced by unknown Tutsi hardliners who intend to prosecute the "war" against Hutu rebels with more vigour, clouds the issue.

Geopolitical economic insignificance has never been hard for Burundi to achieve. Minute, land-locked and impoverished, we produce little but tea, coffee and people — and now less of all three.

The French-American rivalry is more complicated for the coup plotters to exploit. The fact that Sylvester Ntibantunganya, the Hutu civilian ousted as president in July, sought refuge with the US ambassador rather than his French counterpart is a reflection of the way the wind is blowing. The move put US ambassador Morris Hughes at the centre of efforts to get Ntibantunganya back into government or out of the country in France's own backyard.

That suits Buyoya. With their usual discernment, "Les 'Ricains" as the Francophones here know them, have been backing the man who has just seized power, suspended the constitution and vowed not to negotiate an end to the war, as their great democratic hope. Buboya's "Foundation for peace, unity and democracy" — a sort of democratic-transition think-tank — has received US$150,000 in US government funds over the last three years.

On the other hand the mysterious whites from Gabon, Central African Republic and other outposts of the French African empire now offering "security advice" and more over glasses of Chivas Regal in Bujumbura's best restaurants are hardly English speakers. France still has a military aid programme and, as its backing for the Rwandan *genocidaires* in 1994 proves, it has few reservations about murderous governments if support expands its influence. If Buyoya needs help or rescue he would do well to remember that Washington has to explain when it intervenes; Paris has to explain when it doesn't.

And we all may need rescuing soon. The coup plotters are on a desperate kill-or-be-killed mission. They know the Tutsi apartheid system they have imposed on the Hutu for generations could be reversed if they are overthrown; and with at least 800,000 of their Tutsi brethren killed in eight weeks in Rwanda in 1994, they know what vengeance can be like; they also know the 20,000-strong Tutsi army can't hold the line against a Hutu rebel force whose contention that evolutionary democracy is dead seems to have been borne out by the coup itself.

The stage seems set for a bloody final showdown. For those who didn't get a seat on the last planes out, the one consolation is that the alcohol still flows. The brewery in Lake Tanganyika is one of our few functioning businesses, while cognac and red wine are the only goods smugglers will risk bringing over the borders. We are going to need every drop we can get.

FUNNY OLD WORLD

● "Correction. In a press release, issued last week after the fire in the National department store, it was stated that seventy-seven people had perished in the disaster. After extensive forensic work by the Jakarta Police Force, whose findings have since been corroborated by a government pathologist, the Bureau of Information can now state that all but four of the bodies recovered from the ashes were in fact mannequins. And, of those four victims, one was a cat.

"No action will be taken against any employee, as the entire disaster has been as-

cribed to the will of God. The enquiry into the fire is now closed. Arrests will be made if this story or its correction appears in print again.

"By order, the Bureau of Information, Indonesia." *(Asiaweek 3 May 1996. Spotter — Anon.)*

—●—

● **"Je me suis seulement amusé," shouted J.B. Minki-Mi-Essono to onlookers as he was arrested for rape in Peyrie Park, Libreville. "I wanted to have fun, that's all. Anyway, what I did it cannot be rape because Sylvie was the one who started it. putting her tongue in my ear and groping my tingaling. I tell you, that chimpanzee is a slut."**

The conduct of Minki-Mi-Essono, a twenty-four-year-old employee of the Agrogabon company who lives in Ndougayat (Oyem), was later defended by Francois Nziengui-Nzoundou, the chimp's keeper. "Of course it was not rape. Sylvie becomes sexually crazed when she smells underarm deodorant, and Essono is by no means the first passer-by who she has persuaded to pleasure her. She has had dozens of human lovers, to my knowledge, and she always takes the more active role. And if a crowd gathers to watch, that only makes her more excited. When I saw Sylvie and Essono together, I did nothing, although I did tell him afterwards that he should leave his right shoe in the cage with his little mistress, as a souvenir. He did exactly as I asked, the act of a true gentleman."

As Essono was driven away by police, two women were arrested for disturbance of the peace, having had a jealous and violent argument by the entrance to the park. It emerged that both of them had believed themselves to be the man's sole girlfriend. Essono is, in fact, married to a third woman. *(L'Union [Gabon], March 1996. Spotter — Stuart Murray)*

—●—

● *"So far, prohibition has not been quite the success we hoped it would be," admitted Officer Bedi of the Haryana Police Force to reporters. "Naughty motorists think they can out-wit us with their plastic tubes and their melons, but give us time and we shall bring them to justice."*

Officer Bedi explained that, since a total prohibition on alcohol was introduced in the North-Eastern state of Haryana a month earlier, motorists had found ingenious ways to smuggle drink in from neighbouring 'wet' states. "While they are across the border, they fill their car windscreen washer bottles with liquor. Then they fit plastic pipes to the bottles, running from beneath the hood and emerging near the steering wheel. This means that whenever they feel like a sip, they can put the pipe into their mouth, activate the windscreen washer switch, and squirt as much hooch as they want down their throat. They also inject alcohol into water melons, and we only discovered this because of the bravery of one of our officers, who hit a man's melons with a stick and split them open.

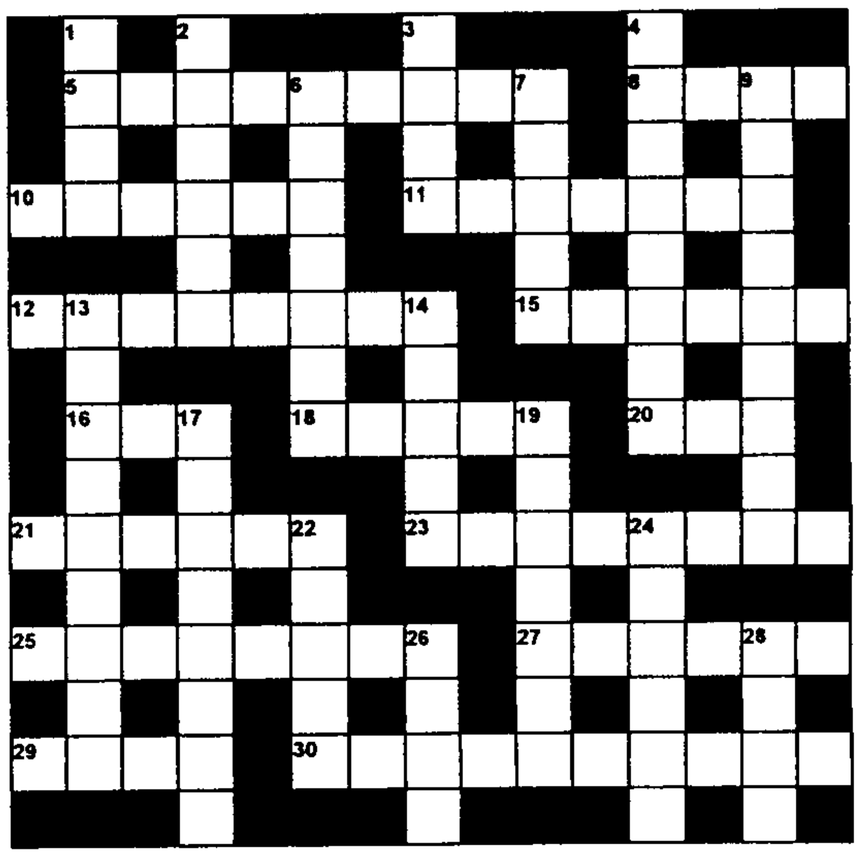
"The results of prohibition so far have been very disappointing. Before it was introduced, men used to come home drunk at night. But now, they're so drunk all the time that they don't go home at all for days on end, and when they do it's only to steal money from their wives to buy more liquor. If it continues, I'm thinking of having the retail trade in melons stopped altogether." (South China Morning Post, 30/7/96. Spotter — George Adams.)

compiled by

Victor Lewis-Smith

EYE CROSSWORD 61

by Cyclops *£100 prize*



ACROSS

5 Yes, one is put out by pisspoor *Daily Mail* (AA also involved) leader (5,4)
8 Stick one in balls and be revolting (4)
10 Something for religious arses to drink round and gag (4,2)
11 (see 7)
12 Our un-boy-scout-like old ruler? (8)
15 Luvvie actress, not married, holding gin cocktail — what a poser! (6)
16 Judge Disraeli to be not all there (3)
18 Sunday-opening boozer in the mire (5)
20 Endless American backchat from undercover operators (3)
21 Kids: Thatcher's reported arch-enemies (6)
23 Stir and spill the beans repeatedly (4,4)
25 God's House (for those closer to Him?) (3,5)
27 Some parliamentarian Eurosceptic that barely managed to get off the ground (6)
29 Peeler's victim gets second helping of dessert (4)
30 Humankind in harmony? That would make this programme redundant (5,2,3)

DOWN

1 Nationalist party line embraced by old partly (4)
2 I never expected that demand from Hugh Grant? (4,2)
3 Snivelling player has no heart for strip (4)
4 Fergie, afflicted with BSE, short of money: what she is renowned for? (8)
6 Interest by politician — naff sort — worsens our balance of payments (7)
7/11/24/13 A jokey climax to reported intercourse between player and board member (2,3,7,4,2,3,6)
9 He got off with Jim on ops touring around South (1,1,7)
13 (see 7)
14 Diana initially shags dopes (5)
17 Bloke, into satire, secures Thatcher role (4,4)
19 Puerile and rash quotes from MPs (7)
22 Get everything you can out of No. 10? (5)
24 (see 7)
26 National BSE crisis engulfs Right (4)
28 Novices once would have no *Sun* crap (4)

£100 prize to first correct solution opened on 13.09.96. Entries to "Crossword", Private Eye, 6 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG.

Solution to Crossword No. 60

Winner: RIAZ HUSAIN/JILL COWAN

ACROSS: 7 (see 25) 8 Haig 9 Kowtow 10 Blairite 11 Star Trek 13 Income 14 The World Service 18 Sidle 20 Suffrage 23 Busybody 25/7 Heir to the throne 26 Veto 27 In the City.

DOWN: 1 Death row 2 Shower 3 Boob 4 Set-aside 5 Chirac 6 Dirty mac 7 Trout 12 Kudos 15 HP Sauce 16 Rhetoric 17 Virginia 19 Dry rot 21 Fuhrer 22 Getty 24 Yeti.

The Lottery Winners

TURNER

SO, A BIG LOTTERY WIN AND YOU'RE LEAVING, LIKE A RAT DESERTING A SINKING SHIP, NO SHAME, NO LOYALTY...
..GO, JUDAS, AND NEVER DARKEN THESE DOORS AGAIN!
VERWOODS
FOOTBALL POOLS

SURVIVORS ATTACK PLANS TO RAISE PUNCH FROM THE DEPTHS

by Our Marine Staff **Ice T. Berg**

THE Punch, the flagship magazine they said was unreadable *(surely 'unsinkable'? Ed)*, **is to be raised by a multi-million pound consortium headed by *Egyptian* born adventurer Mohamed al-Fayed.**

But already the ageing survivors of the greatest magazine disaster in history are saying that the venture is in very poor taste and the wreck should be left as a graveyard and a memorial to all those who went down with the Punch in 1992.

Titanically unfunny

Said one survivor, David Langdon, 98: "It is an insult to the memory of all those jokes that died — I'm thinking of names like Hunter Davies, Alan Coren and Sheridan Morley who refused to jump overboard and instead sang 'Abide With Me' as the great magazine slid slowly into oblivion."

Women and Children Readers First

For a long time ghoulish fortune-hunters have been trying to resurrect the long-lost dream with all its sunken treasures (Joke by Sprog 1938: 1st man on Railway station: I keep thinking it's Thursday. 2nd man: Your dinner is in the oven.)

However, the leader of the salvage operation, Captain McHackey, said: "We are confident this time with all the modern technology at our disposal that we can finally bring this old queen of the ocean up to the surface ready to sink her again. Isn't life just grandy and brandy?"

ON OTHER PAGES

Those McKay expenses in full...

NEW WORDS

with Phillip Howard

TILT
v. trans. **To endanger the safety of the public (eg. by freeing murderers and rapists) with total impunity towards one's own position.**

noun. **Descriptive of the above. Example: "I am not guilty of this tilt. I am not tilty." — M. Howard, Hansard 1996.**

GALLAGHER
noun. **(Derived from old Irish slang 'halloran') A loud-mouthed hobgoblin prone to obscene gestures and language; a person of limited intelligence, ability and personal charm.**

PATSY
noun. **(Also Irish) Girl who falls for a gallagher.**

HODDLE
verb. **(Old English term from alchemy) To produce gold from base metal. Now term associated with sport esp. football. Example: "He hoddled it together and they won 3-0."** *(Daily Mail)*

ADVERTISEMENT

CHESSINGTON
WORLD OF ADVENTURES

SOME of the world's most dangerous paedophiles can be seen without restriction, roaming free in their natural habitat, stalking their prey after being released by the authorities.

Yes! You'd be terrified by a trip to Chessington!

A great day out for you but not your family!

campaign

Rival bids for Camilla account hot up

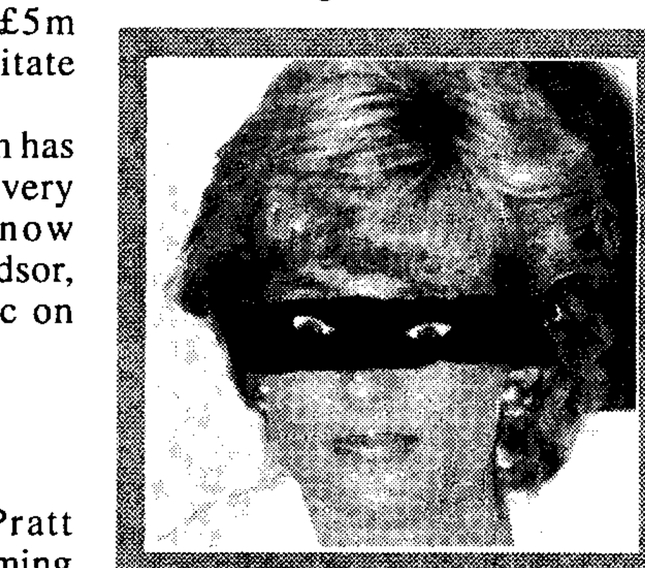
by Our Advertising Staff Morris, Doris and Archie Saatchi

TWO of London's top creative hot-houses have been invited to pitch for the prestigious £5m House of Windsor Rehabilitate Camilla Campaign.

Up until now the campaign has been very low-profile with very limited exposure but now Camilla's agent, Charles Windsor, is seeking to "get the public on board with this brand".

Sadvert

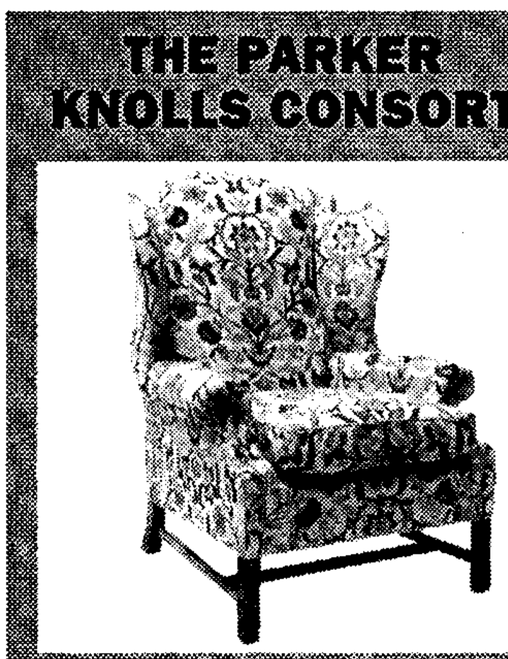
Bogleby Hargell and Pratt have already had a brainstorming session and are confident that their old-fashioned quality approach will be the one to win the 5 million slice. This is their dummy:



OLD DIANA NEW CAMILLA

Diana was sad, bad and dangerous. With her as Queen, Britain was finished. Now say "Queen Camilla". It sounds good, doesn't it? Say it again. "Queen Camilla".

Camilla — Naughty but nice!



— A Seat Fit For A King

Solid, Dependable, And British To Boot

For hundreds of years Parker-Knowles have been making mistresses for the Royal family. The Camilla, our oldest model, is comfortable, well-sprung, luxuriously padded and gives good support for years to come.

Sit on a Camilla — you won't regret it!

Discreet, reliable, looks like an armchair.

Fever Pitch

However, rival top leading creative hotshots Braces, Bowtie and Glasses favour a completely different approach, targeting a younger, high-spending, AB, 30-something empty-nester, blue collar executive market. This is their offering:

Charles has yet to make a decision. "They are both very attractive," he said, "so I think I might go with both of them like I always used to."

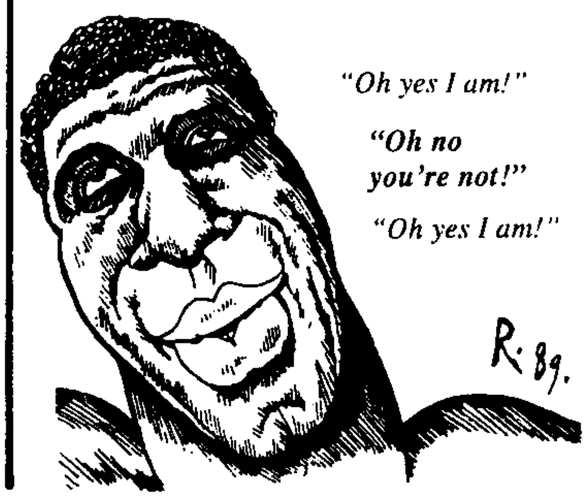
New Films

Indecision Day

THE world is threatened by the evil aliens from Iraq who want to leave their world and invade everyone else's.

Luckily, President Clintstone of America is on hand to personally take command of the US forces, as they heroically do very little and let Saddam Hussein continue very much as before.

BRUNO QUITTING FOR PANTO



The Secret Diary of John Major aged 47¾

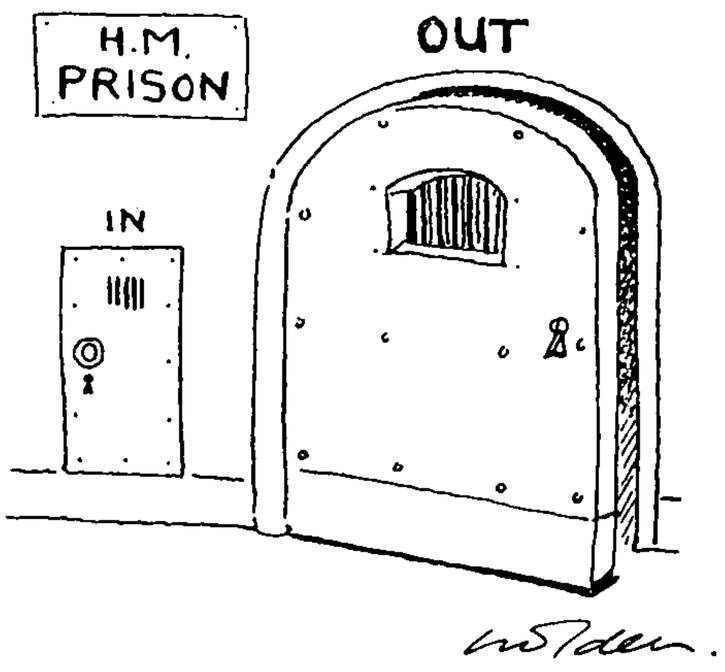
Monday

It is just as well I have decided to end my holiday early to come home for the Test Match. While I have been away everything has gone wrong. "It's as though you'd never been away," said my wife Norman as she unpacked the delicious M and S English Cheese Selection we had bought in the duty-free shop at Orly Airport as a souvenir of our continental holiday.

For a start I read in the free Daily Express they give you on the aeroplane that Mr Howard has let out thousands of rapists and murderers onto the streets. "I though that was Mrs Bottomley's job," I told the man sitting next to me on the aeroplane, who seemed very nice until I saw the name of the paperback he was reading.

"This is the funniest book I've read for years," he said, after they had handed round the hot towels. "It's about this old bloke who makes garden gnomes in south London, who has two sons. One is useless, but the other becomes a famous writer and TV personality."

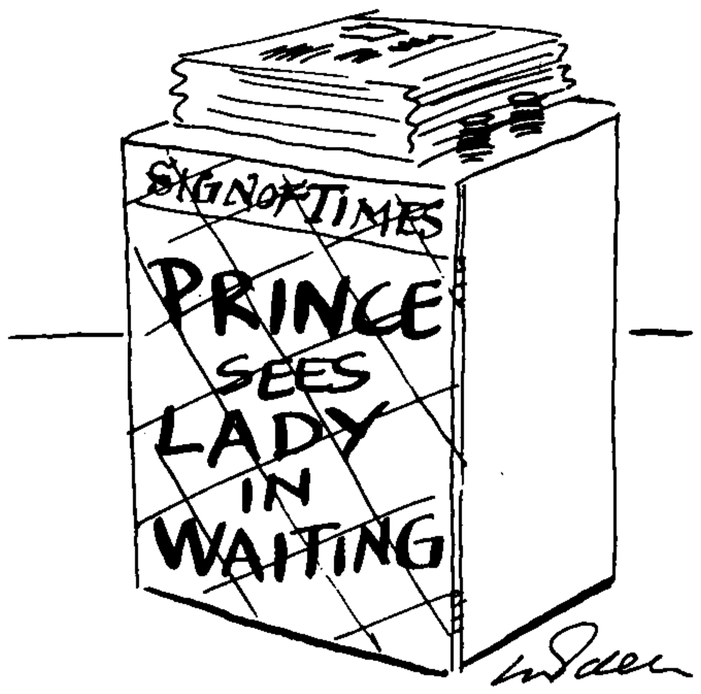
I did not talk to him for the rest of the flight and I was considerably annoyed on our arrival at Gatwick when he opened the overhead locker and his hand luggage fell on my head, despite the clear warning from Captain Collimore that passengers should take extra care when disembarking their luggage.



Anyway, all this just put me in a not inconsiderably in no small measure irritable mood, which was not helped by Mr Howard ringing me up as soon as we got back to Downing Street to say that he was not going to resign. "It was not my fault that all the prisoners were let out," he said. "It was the Head of the Prison Service, a Mr Tilt." "And who does Mr Tilt blame?" I said in my sternest I'm-back-from-holiday-and-I'm-in-charge voice. "He says that the Home Office is to blame," said Mr Howard. "And who is in charge of the Home office?" I asked him. "Er... I don't think that is important" he replied, putting down the phone.

Tuesday

Today I was able for once to forget about the country's troubles when I went to the Oval to see the end of the Test Match against Pakistan. I had predicted a win for England which would bring back the feel-good factor and thus prepare the ground for our great victory in next year's election.



Wednesday

As if we hadn't got enough problems (not of course that we do have any, and certainly not the cricket, which is not in the slightest bit important, oh no), I am worried about the Royal Divorce, which in my judgement could sabotage the feel-good factor, especially if he decides to marry Mrs Parker-Knolls. This afternoon I was personally summoned to Buckingham Palace to receive a fax from Prince Charles himself who was at Balmoral. "Dear Mr Major," it began. "I want to give you my solemn and categorical assurance that I have absolutely no intention of marrying Mrs Parker-Bowles before the next election. Yours Sincerely, Your Future King."

This was indeed very reassuring news, and we are back on track for victory.

Thursday

At last we have scored a real victory over Mr Blair. Dr Mawhinney's very clever poster showing him with funny red eyes, looking like Mr Lamont after one of his late-night visits to meet his friends Mr Onanugu at Thresher's, has been a brilliant success. It has at last got Mr Blair really upset. In fact he is so upset he complained to the Advertising Standards Authority which has ordered us to take all the posters down. I have shown what I think of this by making Mr Saatchi, who helped Dr Mawhinney think up this brilliant campaign, a Lord. When I told Norman of this very clever move she said: "I suppose he will call himself Screaming Lord Saatchi."

Friday

Let there be no doubt Mr Blair is now in serious trouble. Senior members of his party, such as Mr Austin Reed who is on satellite television with Lord Tebbit, have accused him of behaving like a dictator.

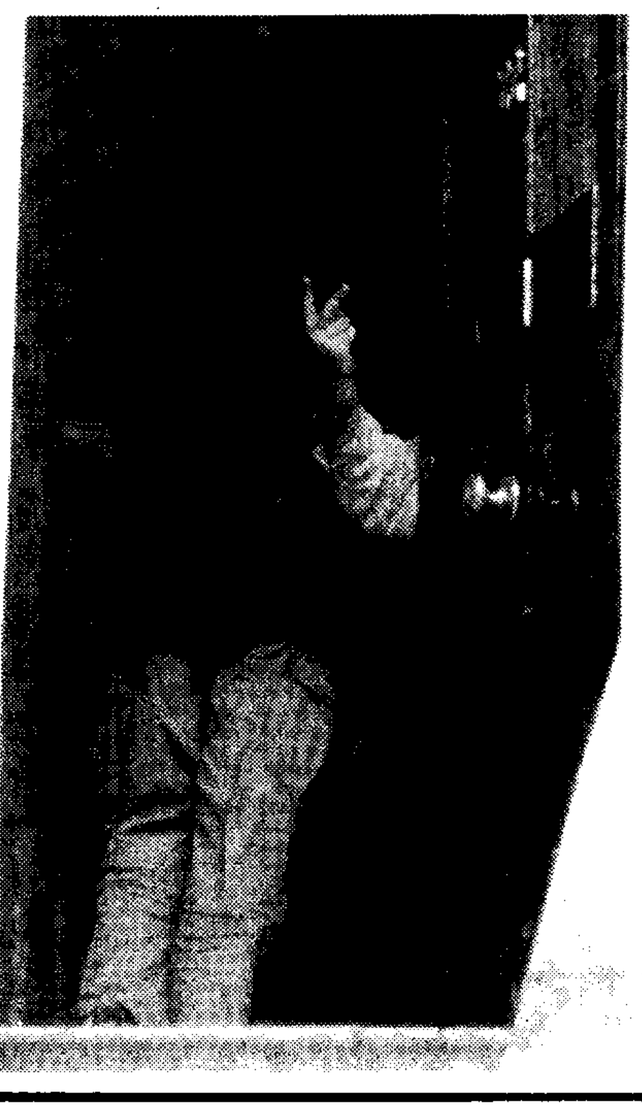
No one would accuse me of that — oh no! "In your party everybody tells you what to do," said Norman as she helped herself to a portion of Waitrose Own-Brand Corn Circles with Free UFO Toy (which unfortunately I ate as it was invisible).

The woman I never talk about has made a fool of herself once again. When Mrs Thatcher was in No. 10 she was so worried that she consulted a fortune-teller, Madame Teabag.

She told Mrs Thatcher to watch out for a tall grey stranger who was going to send her on a long journey into oblivion.

How stupid! When I feel worried about the future, I do not look up a horoscope! I simply knock on Mr Heseltine's door, wait for the green light to go on, and then go in, when he tells me what is in store.

CAMILLA SPEAKS EXCLUSIVELY TO PRIVATE EYE



Eye Picture Probe

Queen Camilla: Yes or No?

Rev J.C Flannel, 59.
On the one hand I think there is a very real difficulty about the head of the Church of England being divorced and marrying a divorced woman but on the other hand, in the more liberal climate of today, isn't divorce preferable to an unhappy marriage? I myself am recently divorced as it happens and would like to remarry should the right partner present themselves and then divorce their current husband *(cont p. 94)*.

The Bishop of Neasden, The Right Rev Gary Knee, 28
On the one hand there is a genuine concern over the right of each individual to enjoy a full and harmonious sexual union with the partner of his or her choice, but on the other hand I think there is a very real wish on the part of the Church's leaders to get our names into the paper and with a bit of luck to go on *Newsnight*.

W.F. Deedes, 98
Thish ish an isshue the nashion hash to adressh with the greatesht posshible sheriousnessh. Ish that enough?

Rabbi Lionel Blue, 65
Hallo Charles! Hallo Camilla! You know my granny used to say to me: "Lionel, if you don't eat up your chicken soup you'll never meet a nice girl." And you know I never did.

Dave Spart, 38
Er... this whole debate is to my mind a total irrevelance proliferated by the media in an attempt to divert attention from the real issues i.e. Thatcher and her totally sickening attack on the homeless er...

Dame Barbara Cartland, 178
When a girl marries it should be for life. It certainly was for me until I got divorced.

Sir Chris Evans, 24
Honk if you think Chaz and Cammy shouldn't bonk! Ring me on the Radio One Bonkline! Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha. Laugh everyone or you're sacked.

Prince Charles, 66
I would like to make it clear that I have no intention of remarrying until I do.

Princess Diana, 21
You bastard!

BA MARKETING
BA EUROPEAN BUSINESS AND LANGUAGES
BA HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT (SANDWICH COURSE)
UCE Business School advertisement

DIVORCE COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
Diana, Princess of Wales, will today appear on the front pages of all newspapers looking sad and lonely. She will be attended by 2,000 photographers, including Mr Slizi Papparazzi from Ogli magazine, Mr Pipi Voyeur from Paris Snatch, Mr Terry Photo and Mr Len Scap from the News of the Screws, and Mr Ray Ving-Lunatic, a freelance stalker. She will then proceed to the bank and laugh.

BALMORAL (West Deeside)
His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will spend the day sulking and pretending to fish. He will later slip out of a side gate in order to fulfil a prearranged love-tryst with Lady Camilla Parker-Bowles. He will be attended by Inspector Knacker of the Royal Knacker Squad, who will tape-record the couple's intimate sex-romps for onward sale to the Sun newspaper at a later date.

BALMORAL (East Deeside)
Her Majesty the Queen will go for a ride accompanied by her horse Mr Gloom and two of the Royal Corgis, St John and Fawsley. She will make a speech to herself for three hours on the theme of "Is it possible to change the law so that Anne can succeed me instead of that stupid boy?"

EDINBURGH (Festival)
His Royal Highness Prince Edward will be at the bar of the Assembly Rooms, where he will be avoided by a number of commissioning editors, including Channel 4's Mike Glasses, BBC's Alan Beard and Carlton's Head of Rubbish, Chris Useless. He will then get out his mobile phone and say "Hi!", "Ciao!", "Let's do lunch" and "Catch you later" at intervals.

SONY WORKMAN

THE SIXTH postal strike this summer is part of a government attempt to privatise the Post Office by the back door, say Liberal Democrap MPs.

Liberal Democrat News

HIJACK DRAMA

by Our News Staff **Stan Sted**

AN ELDERLY vehicle has been taken over by a desperate group of political activists, it was revealed yesterday.

The dramatic hijacking began two years ago when the band boarded the Labour Party via the right wing.

They immediately seized control and threatened the rest of the passengers with expulsion if they did not do as they were told.

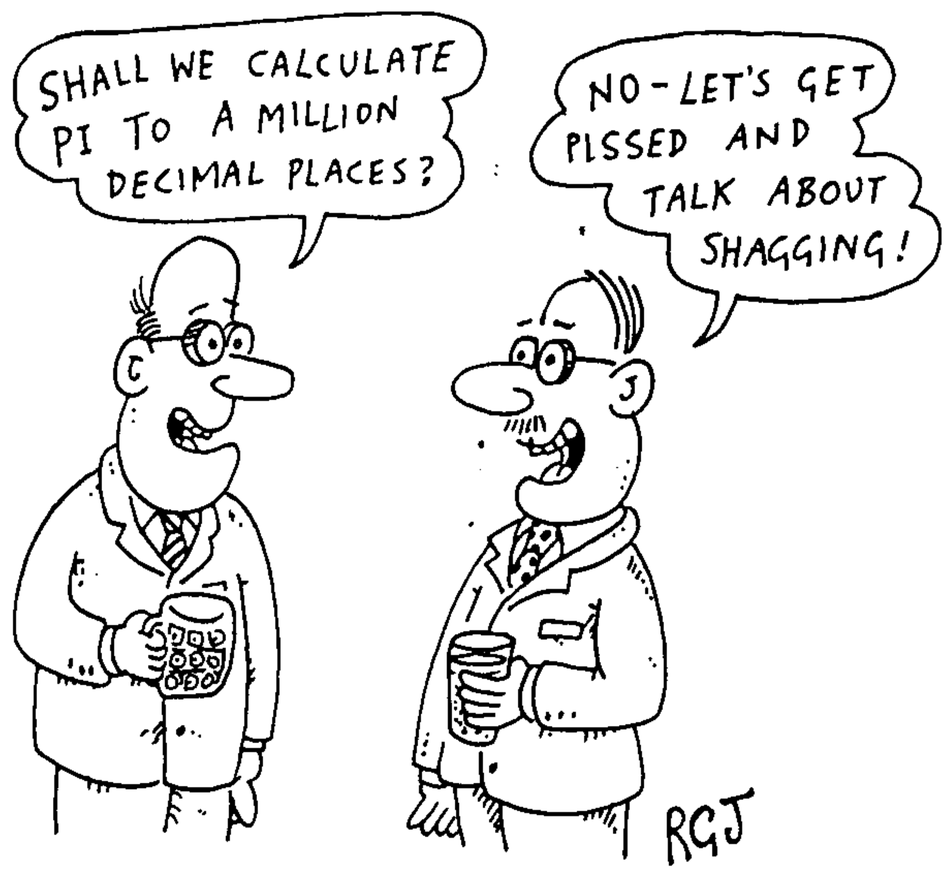
The crazed leader, known only as Tony Al-Blair, issued a series of outrageous demands and told the crew to "take me to Number Ten Downing Street or I will destroy everything".

One terrified passenger, a Mr Austin Mitchell MP, said: "Al-Blair was extremely aggressive and told me to keep quiet or he would throw me out."

No attempt was made to overpower Mr Al-Blair or his sinister accomplice Mandallah-sun as they tried to fly the Labour Party in a completely different direction from its normal route — i.e. round and round in a circling pattern.

A government spokesman said: "This is a very dangerous situation and we are hoping that Al-Blair will just give up and leave the Labour Party stranded on the ground, where we know how to deal with it."

Michael Howard is free.

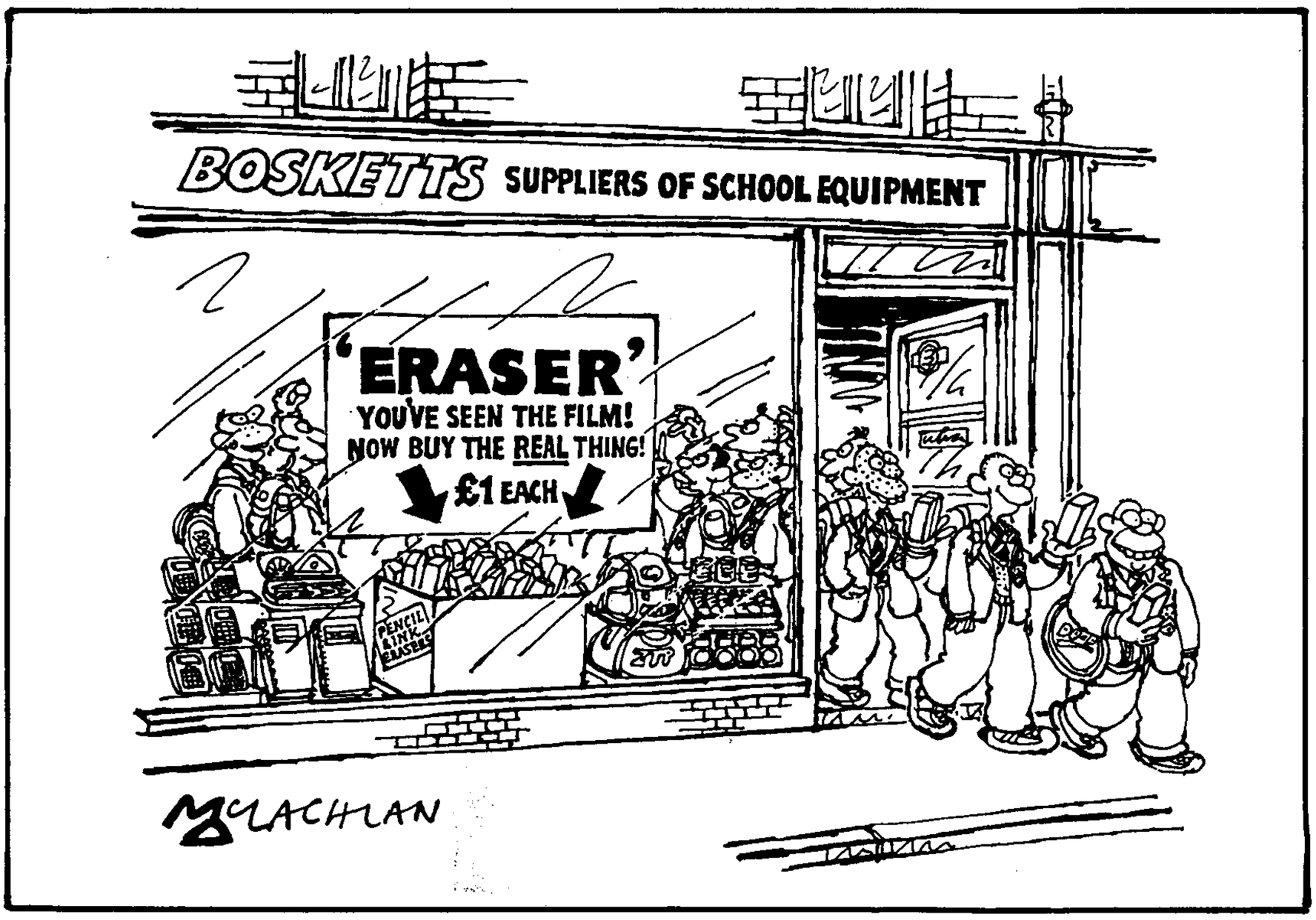


Mensa Behaving Badly

Birt's £100 Licence Fee

What you will get for your money

- **More managers.**
- **More women managers (except at senior level).**
- **More charts showing the number of managers.**
- **More women making charts (except at senior level).**
- **More ethnic newsreaders on regional programmes shown during the afternoon (regions vary).**
- **Huge staff cuts in all other areas.**
- **Fewer programmes.**
- **More repeats.**
- **More repeats.**
- **More repeats.**
- **More money for John Birt.**
- **A chance to buy shares in Beeb TV! plc (formerly the British Broadcasting Corporation).**



School news

St Cakes

Kremlin Term begins today. There are 2,816 Russians in the school. R.U.J. Nomenklatura (Kalashnikovs) is Head of Mafia. Tracy Yeltsin (Smirnoffs) is Senior Prostitute. Rev R.J. Grimble has been replaced as school chaplain by the Archimandrite Sergei of Zagorsk. Their will be a performance of Einstein's film *Bottleship Potsmokin* on November 17 (Revolution Day). Chechens will be shot on December 7 (old style). Fees should be paid to the Bursar, General Grachev, in advance in cash or gold (no roubles accepted). Exiles will be on December 25. Free full-colour brochure (in Russian) available from the headmaster Mr Kipling.

St Cakes — It Makes Exceedingly Good Money

Poetry Corner

In Memoriam: Lines written on the deaths of the following persons *viz* Rabbi Hugo Gryn, contributor to Radio 4's Moral Maze, Geoff Hamilton of Gardeners' World, and Phyllis Pearsall, creator of the A-Z Map of London.

So. Farewell
Then.

Unfortunately
There is no room
For
A poem.

E.J. Thribb (17½)

2.00 Annual fete: Held by Wantage Dead and Hard of Hearing Club.

Oxford Times

"What happened at the end was tragic, of course. I'm the first to know that. But basically the British press hate a winner who's British. They don't like any British man to have balls as big as a cow's, like I have.

Grauniad

The Daily Hellograph

An Apology

IN COMMON with all other newspapers, we at the Daily Telegraph may recently have given the impression that we in some way approved of the popular singing group the Oasis. We refer in particular to our front-page story on 20 August headed WE LOVE OASIS, THE GREATEST GROUP EVER *SAYS THE DAILY TELEGRAPH* with reference to further articles in the same issue on pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. Our signed editorial by Mr Charles Moore-Young-Readers-Please entitled "The Beatles Are Rubbish Compared With Fab Oasis" may further have led *readers to* conclude that this newspaper regarded the Gallagher brothers as worthy of our approbation, singling out such songs as "Morning Has Broken", "Blunderball" and "Don't Look Back At The Daily Telegraph" as compositions comparable only with those of Schubert and the late Sir Jonathan Lennon.

We now realise that Mr Liam and Mr Noel Gallagher are nothing more than a pair of talentless, foul-mouthed, drunken, boorish yobboes who dragged the good name of rock 'n' roll into the gutter, aided and abetted by the foolish hype lavished upon them by the more irresponsible sections of the media.

We would like to apologise to all our readers, most of whom have never heard of these people, for any confusion which this might unwittingly have given rise to.

IN TOMORROW'S
Daily Hellograph

Bill Deedes On Tour with Oasis

Exclusive 6-Page Interview with Naughty Noel by **Sarah "Summer Sounds" Sands**

Clifford Langley on The Religious Message of Oasis

Dr James Le Fanu on Can Oasis Give You BSE?

PLUS: The Daily Telegraph Oasis Shooting Stick and Wrought-Iron Bootscraper Set offer — only £99.99

THAT CLINTSTONE ACCEPTANCE SPEECH IN FULL

(edited highlights)

President Clintstone: Mah fellow Americans. *(20 minutes of cheering, clapping, popping balloons and holding up banners reading* HIL AND BILL — ANOTHER FOUR YEARS*)* Mah wife Wilma *(Clintstone embraces nearest blonde woman and begins to cry)* ... mah little daughter Chelsea *(he embraces nearest child and begins to cry)* ... family values ... apple pie ... surfing USA ... I have a dream ... let's cut welfare ... ask not what your country can do for you ... giant step for mankind ... Americans on Mars by end of decade ... Independence Day great movie ... God bless America ... yabba dabba doo. *(Hysteria breaks out, lasting for two hours)*

(The same speech is then delivered by Mrs Hillary Roddam Clintstone, Mr Al Gore Vidal-Sassoon and Mrs Tipper Truck Gore-Vidal-Capone. The Whitewatergate Mormon Tabernacle Choir sing the theme from "Superman" while Mr Christopher Reeve is wheeled on and then wheeled off again. The delegates finally go home to their motels, where they discuss the conference with their prostitutes [surely 'families'? Ed] *)*

LATE SCORE

Clintstone Eastwood *(Democratic Party)* **92%**

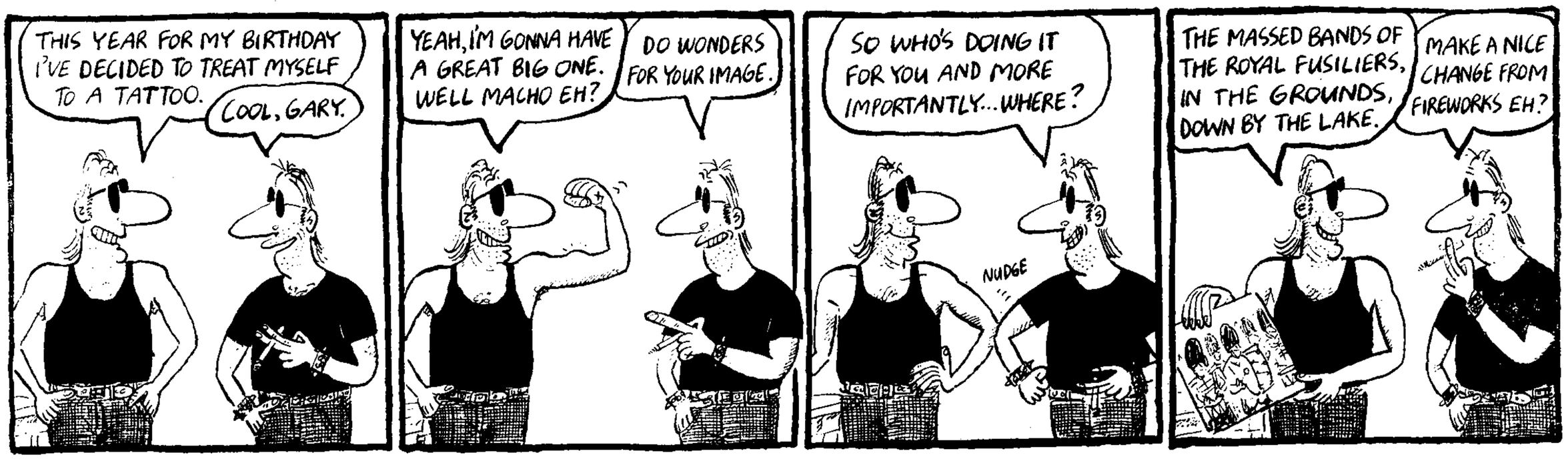
Former Senator Dole *(Republican Party)* **0%**

Sir James Perot *(Referendum Party)* **0%**

Mr Michael Huffington-Puffington-Strassinopoulos *(Dinner Party)* . . . . . **– 4%**

Celeb

LIGGER


THIS YEAR FOR MY BIRTHDAY I'VE DECIDED TO TREAT MYSELF TO A TATTOO.
COOL, GARY.
YEAH, I'M GONNA HAVE A GREAT BIG ONE. WELL MACHO EH?
DO WONDERS FOR YOUR IMAGE.
SO WHO'S DOING IT FOR YOU AND MORE IMPORTANTLY... WHERE?
NUDGE
THE MASSED BANDS OF THE ROYAL FUSILIERS, IN THE GROUNDS, DOWN BY THE LAKE.
MAKE A NICE CHANGE FROM FIREWORKS EH?

Mad woman allowed to run riot in 'chaotic' institution

by Our Investigative Team **John Wareohware**

A seedy, run-down, state-financed institution on the dingy fringes of Shepherds Bush in West London was for years the scene of one of the most shocking scandals of our time.

It is a story of neglect, irresponsibility and the crazed misuse of public money.

Enid Rancid is 57. Ever since the 1960s she has lived in the Documentary Wing of the White City Home for the Incurably Useless, generally known as "the BBC".

Fellow inmates describe Enid as "impossible to get on with", "prone to tantrums", "mad", "unbearably egocentric" and "the wife of Desmond Wilcox".

But for 20 years, instead of being kept under strict supervision, Rancid was allowed to do whatever she wanted.

She was given extraordinary privileges, such as being allowed out into the street to wander around embarrassing old ladies by showing them a variety of elongated and deformed vegetables and asking them: "Has your husband got one like this?"

The Late Cyril Fletcher

But Enid was not just a harmless lunatic. She also had a darker side.

She fell prey to a series of obsessions which led her to appear on television, ranting and raving.

She would hold forth for hours on the dangers of smoking or the need for everyone to have sprinklers in their bathrooms to prevent toddlers falling out of taxis.

She asked all the children in the country to ring her up and tell her how they were being abused by their parents and teachers.

The Late Molly Sugden

All this gave Enid the delusion that she was a saintly figure, on a par with Princess Diana and Mother Teresa.

Only once did a brave member of the nursing staff, Sister Botney, attempt to cut off Enid's *That's Life* support system, a costly machine that day and night dripped vast quantities of money into her open purse.

But Rancid was too clever for Botney. She was soon back on TV, terrifying the public with her programme *Pots Of Gold*.

The Late Paul Heiney Who Married Libby Purves

The scandal of Mad Enid finally came to a head when she launched a series of frenzied attacks on doctors, claiming that they were responsible for all the world's ills and making unfounded allegations against respectable London nursing homes.

The Eye attempted to contact Mr Birt, who is supposed to be the director of the Shepherds Bush home, but he was said to be attending a seminar in Vancouver on The Managerial Systems Revolution.

PEEARRE
With Andy Callsoon

Wild Man Liam outrages world

BAD BOY Liam Gallagher has made his most shocking gesture yet, proving once again that he is the essential spirit of rock 'n' roll.

Crazy Liam has decided that rather than go on a US tour with its non-stop rollercoaster ride of sex, drugs and trashed hotel rooms, he is going to buy a house with his fiancée instead.

Lunatic Liam mouthed off to me in typical style, telling me to "Go and get yourself a pension-linked fixed-rate mortgage from the Halifax." He then added: "They are more competitive than either Nationwide or Abbey National for first-time buyers."

Meanwhile, fans can look forward to the new Oasis album, which Liam assures me will continue to reflect his controversial rebel lifestyle. New songs include:

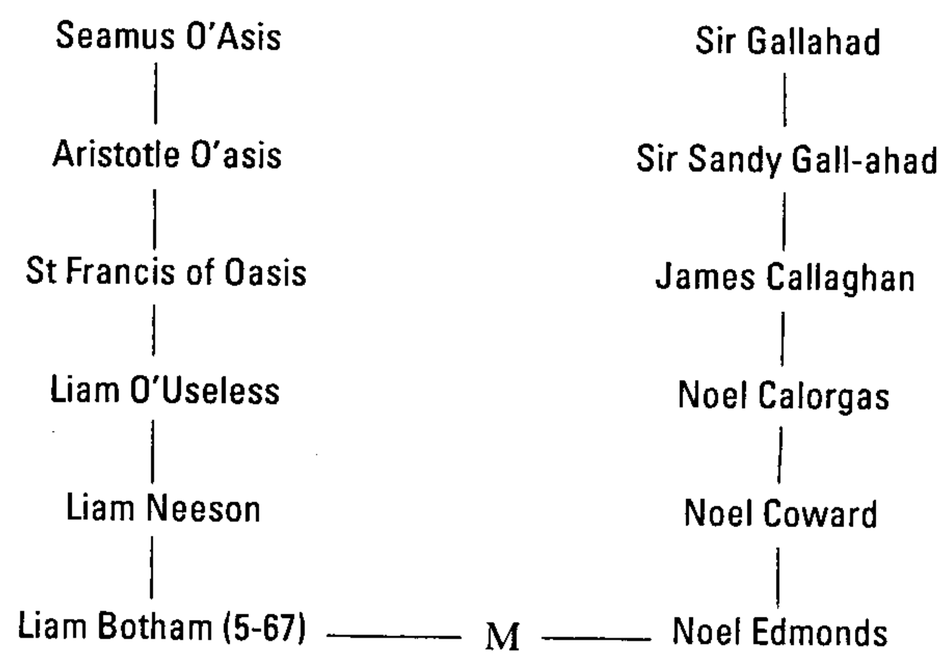
- *Hey! Have You Got Buildings and Home Contents Insurance, Darling?*
- *Let's Get On Down To John Lewis (They Do Very Good Carpets)*
- *Rock 'n' Roll Star With A Sainsbury's Homebase Premiere Reward Card*
- *Do You Know Anyone Who Does Good Shelves, Baby?*
- *I've Got Those IKEA at Brent Cross Blues*
- *Wonderwallpaper at Laura Ashley*

(That's enough Oasis. Ed.)

How They Are Related

Noel Gallagher

Liam Gallagher



Clinical Standards Advisory Group

Schizophrenia. – Sir Gordon Higginson (chairman, CSAG). – 2 v. ([2], 69; [4], 60p.): tables: 30 cm. – 2 vols. not supplied separately. - Shrinkwrapped.

HMSO Daily List

SUPERMODELS
KERBER
BACKSTAGE WITH LIAM AND PATSY....
COSH LIAM, I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE GIG. I LOVE WATCHING YOU PLAY!
FOOKIN CLAP ALRIGHT?
I KNOW YOU ARE ... BUT YOU DO MAKE LOTS OF MONEY.

Alternative Royal Rocky Horror Service Book

No. 94: A Multi-Faith Service Of Second Marriage Between Divorced Persons Responsible For The Break-Up Of First Marriages

The Presidents *(who shall include the Chief Rabbi, the Chief Mullah, Sri Bagwan Rajneesh, The Rev Kim Il Sung, the late L. Ron Hubbard, the Dalai Lama, His Holiness The Pope, and the Archbishop of Canterbury)*: Hi!
(or it may be Shalom, Allah Akbar, Ciao or similar greetings).

Congregation: No problem.

Presidents: We are gathered here together to celebrate the joining together of these persons C and C in a stable and responsible relationship. If anyone knows of any just cause or impediment why C should not be king ye are to hold your peace because we've heard it all before.

(The Muezzin may here declare a fatwa against all adulterers with the exception of C and C. A suitable piece of music may then be played on the sitar, such as Parry's "Di Wasn't Glad". There will then be a reading from the Kamilla Sutra)

Reader: "And the God Chazza came privily by night to the chamber of the fair maiden Kamipaka.

"And he saith unto her: 'Come into the moonlight, my beloved one, and I shall display to you a Royal Lingam such as is greater than the splendour of a thousand suns. It is thicker than the Gum-Gum Tree, and nightingales rest in its shadow.' Here ends the reading."

All: Great.

Presidents: I now declare you Man and Someone Else's Wife.

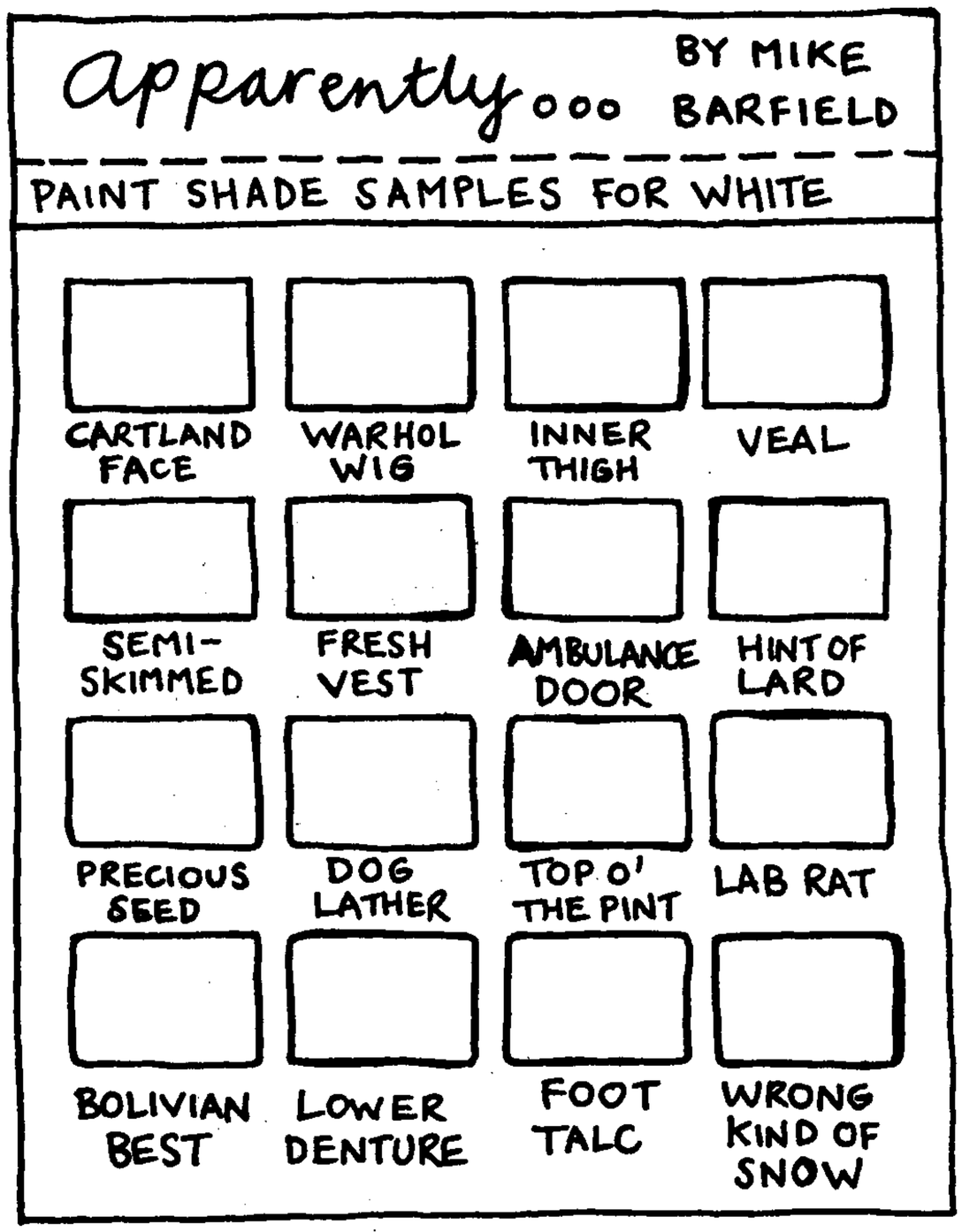
(The happy pair shall then be festooned with garlands to mark their solemn union.)

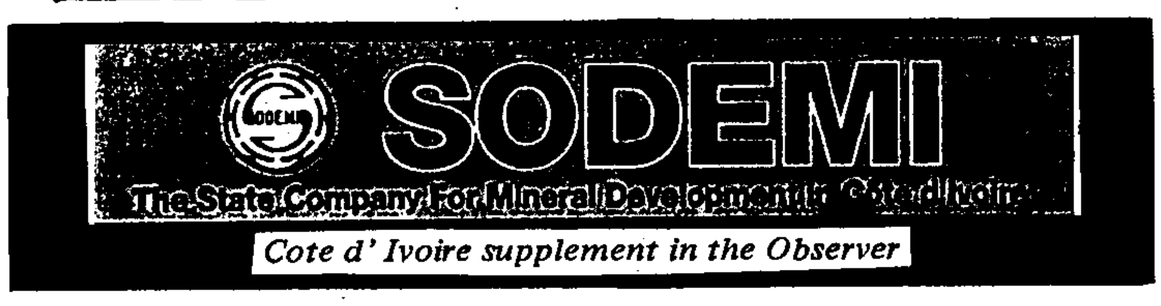
DISMISSAL

The Pope: Pax vobiscum.

All: Tampax vobiscum.

World Copyright The Highgrove Organic Press. Printed on Recycled Rhubarb. All profits to the Prince's Lack of Trust.





Der Wiener Telegraf

1790 EIN PFENNIG

BROTHERS' BUST UP ROCKS MUSIC WORLD

by Our Symphonic Staff Lunchtime O'Pus (127)

The world of classical music was rocked to its foundation yesterday when one of the two hugely talented brothers who have dominated the music scene since 1783 walked out just before the pair were due to appear in a "gig" in London.

Herr Michael Haydn, the flamboyant lead singer for the group known as the Imperial Kapelle Choir, stormed out of the Hanover Square Rooms, leaving his lesser-known brother Josef to carry on the concert alone.

"I vill not lower my world-famous talent just to entertain some ****** English schweinhunden," he told Der Telegraf.

This is not the first time that creative tension has surfaced between the two brothers.

Last year after an unsuccessful course of therapy with Dr Anton Mesmer, the well-known Viennese psychiatrist, Michael refused to collaborate with his brother on a Mass in C Minor commissioned by the Graf Von Esterrantzen.

"All Josef is interested in doing is sucking up to a lot of silly Counts," he said.

Ludwig van Beethoven is 20.

A Doctor writes

AS A Doctor, I am often asked: "Doctor, can we film your next operation — especially if it is really gory with lots of blood?"

The simple answer is: "What will the fee be?" If it is sufficiently large, this may lead to a successful video, or *Sicus operationis pervertum*, to give it its full medical name.

If you are interested in filming my operations, contact Media Filth, Harley Street, Soho at once.

Copyright A. Doctor (and not the patient, who has not been consulted because he is unconscious or even dead).

DIARY

PETRONELLA WYATT

I believe it was the great Montesquieu who once noted that the great Bacon once observed that the great Talleyrand liked to quote the great Dr Johnson's observation, picked up, I think, from the great Antone Boulay de la Meurthe, who has heard it from the great Madame de Pompadour to the effect that, as the great Lord Chesterfield might have said, there is nothing quite so becoming for the author as an ill-concealed flick through the index of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations before embarking on an article. How does this suggestion strike one? Uncommonly observant of those estimable laudable souls, methinks.

Petronella thinks: A life spent eating chewing-gum is not a life well-spent.

"Poor people" is a phrase often regularly always thrown about by the professional boobies of the Left. But are there really such things? None of my friends is "poor", and no one else I know — Mr John Major, Sir James Goldsmith, Mr Bill Cash, Conrad Black, Sir Paul Getty, HM the Queen and many more — could be described as such. This week, to satisfy my own intellectual curiosity (pity me, reader, my overwhelming intelligence), I decided to pay a visit to a slum. There, I was told, I might be able to observe some of these mythical creatures at close quarters. Of course, we all have first-hand knowledge of what a slum is. 2 + 2 is a slum, and so is 7 x 8. But what do these slums tell us about poor people? Nothing, forsooth. So off I went traversed journeyed to the backstreets of a little known Northern city which went by the name of Birmingham.

Perchance, it emerged that Birmingham is *inter alia* the second biggest city in England. "Take me to the poor people, if any — and *inter alia*!" I said to the oafish and unattractive cab-driver. Why do people drive cabs when they could ride in them instead? It beats me. Thither we hurried. The oaf dropped me off in a scruffy backstreet, best described as bearing no noticeable similarities whatsoever to the Old Brompton Road.

It this revolting place, I saw men, women and children sitting in the gutters, their arms outstretched, holding out mugs and paper-cups half-filled with coins. I did what any compassionate individual would have done, dear reader: I snatched their paltry offerings with good grace and poured the change into a plastic bag so as not to dirty my Chanel overcoat, handing these "poor people" back their cups with a bountiful flick of my hair. But one question remains, If they are so "poor" why are they giving money away? Yes, the poor are very over-rated, and the sooner this Government realises it, the better for everyone else, bless us.

Petronella thinks: I have known God for some time, and like him. But isn't it high time He told Mr Tony Blair to pull his socks up?

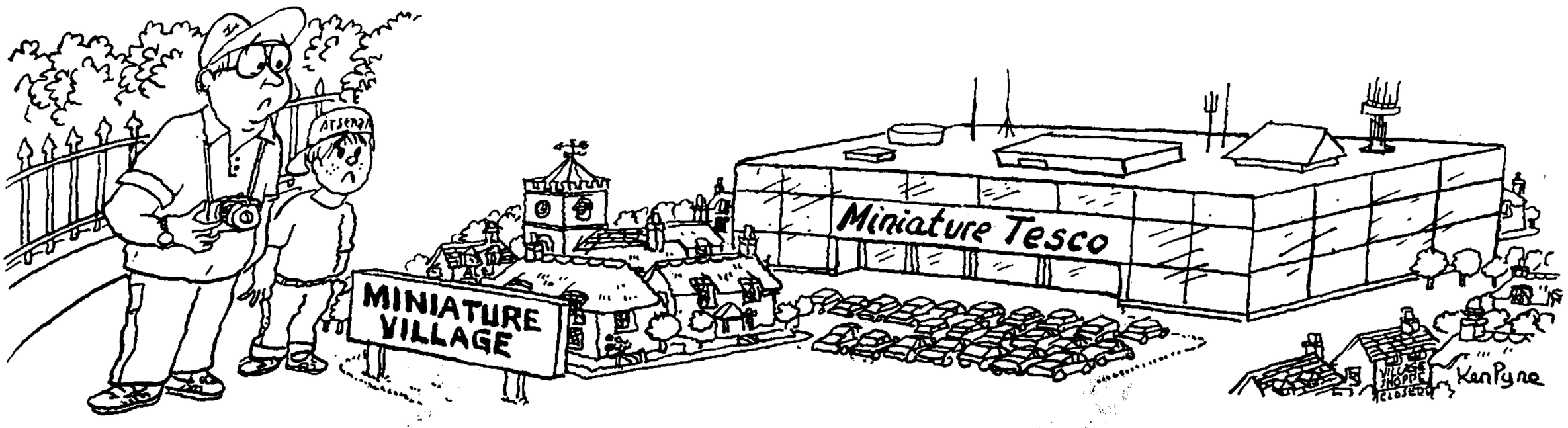
How, I hear you ask, does one extend a word into a sentence, a sentence into a paragraph and a paragraph into an article, particularly when one has nothing — *nul* as the over-rated French might put it — to say? How is this done? If, as might be the case, one has precious little — or indeed nothing (zilch in the typically coarse slang of our American cousins) — to say, then how on earth can one elongate what one has — or has not, as the case might be — to say to such an extent that it can finally be sent in, posted, faxed, dictated or otherwise communicated to a magazine or newspaper as, to all intents and purposes, a fully fledged article or essay. Or to put it another way, as the great Talleyrand and the great Hazlitt both did — or as they might have done had they ever done so, which, I am reliably informed, the never did — what means is there available to the article-writer or essayist who wishes artificially to extend her bare millimetre of thoughts in order to fill an entire full whole complete total page? Will placing a question mark after every other sentence suffice? And what about repeating both the question and the answer but in slightly different ways? With the question repeated in a marginally different way — and ditto the answer — will this help achieve the object? Who knows? Or — to rephrase it in a way not entirely dissimilar — knows who?

Petronella thinks: I like non-sequiturs, but I do wish they would follow on from what had just been said!

'Twas not always so. The present day, I mean. When you compare it to history, the present day is really much, much more recent. Was it not Winston Churchill, the great wartime leader and British Prime Minister whose dates are 1874-1965 and who will be remembered for his famous cigarette and top hat, who said that the thing about history is that it's worth repeating? This set me thinking. As someone with a lifelong expertise in history — it was the great G.M. Trevelyan who said something about history, I forget what — I have learnt over the course of a very busy life that people who lived in earlier times were very different to us — some of them dying even before we were born.

Petronella thinks: A plague on our own age! Surely no other age allowed such an abundance of nincompoops, boobies and mere bagatelles to embarrass us in print with their worthless opinions! Quel Domage, as the Italians would say.

I went to interview Chairman Deng Xiao-Ping of Japan yesterday. He is old and not very sexually attractive, with slitty eyes and few conversational skills. He had never heard of Taki, for instance. But I managed to break the ice. "Mr Chairman, do you fancy me something rotten?" I asked him, showing a bit of leg for the official photographer. He looked sheepish, which obviously meant a resounding Yes. Typical male! As the great Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (a titled lady whose surname ended famously in a 'u') once observed — but hark! I have arrived me at a finish.



Literary Review

The penis mightier...

Sap Rising
A.A. Gill
(Doubleday, £15.99)

HOW did this get published? No, I'm serious: how *did* this get published? We all know about the seedy corporatism by which London publishing currently gets administered, but the extraordinary fact remains that someone — some editorial mogul, some agent, perhaps even the author himself — must have sat down one morning, inspected the fat white pile of manuscript and murmured: "Now, this is really rather *good*."

If ever a — well, let's stick our necks out here and call Mr Gill's little effusion a "novel" — were symptomatic of the decayed state of publishing it's *Sap Rising*. A.A. Gill, in case you didn't know, is the monocled toff who appears twice or thrice each week in the *Sunday Times* doing the TV reviews, patronising restaurants (in both senses of the verb) and writing penetrating analyses for the style section. He has now written a book. There is reason to believe, on the strength of internal evidence, that he may even have written it himself.

It is not a terribly good book. No, really. Most novels by journalists aren't — does anyone remember Bryan Appleyard's *The First Church of the New Millennium* (from the same publisher, ominously enough) two or three years back? But this one is so uniquely dreadful, so utterly without charm or interest, that some sort of explanation is required. Why can't one read a page without feeling faintly queasy, or wondering what kind of mind could have laboured to produce its 318 revolting pages? There are two answers. One is to do with the way people write comic novels these days. The other, alas, is to do with sex.

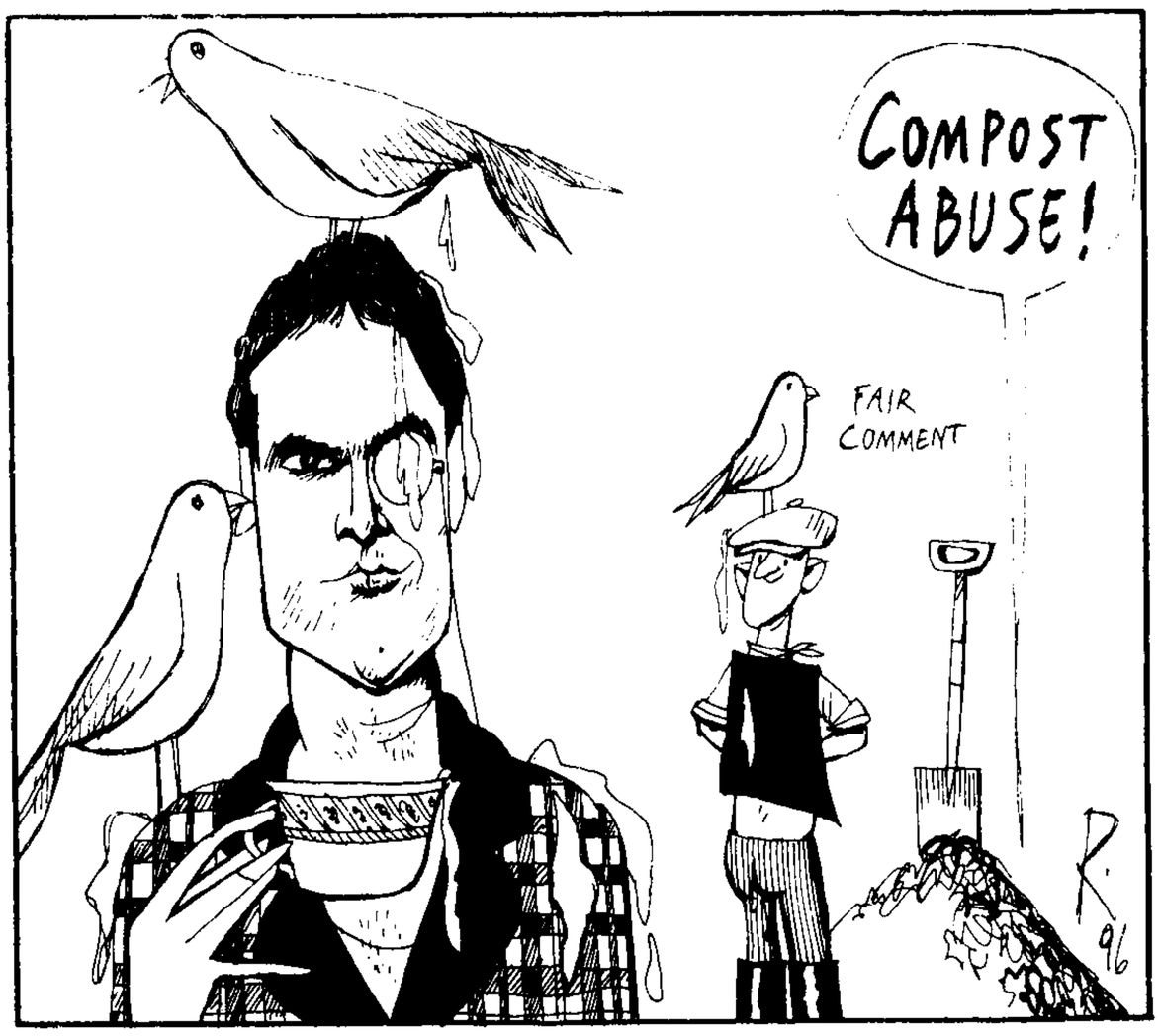
Sap Rising, set in a posh west London square, concerns the agitation of its residents over what shall be done with its garden. The extensive cast have names like Lord Vernon of Barnstaple (a queer peer); Lily Ng (Vietnamese daily — oh and the joke about her name was done by Timothy Mo in *The Redundancy of Courage*); and Bryony Mullins (foul-mouther harpy). Worse, Gill's idea of characterisation is to give each a distinguishing idiosyncrasy. Thus Lord Vernon has a *lisp* (hilarious isn't it?); Lily imagines herself to be starring in a Hollywood film about Vietnam ("You shy, Big Boy. I do you good and proper, very long slow jig-a-jig"); while Bryony just talks filth ("I for one won't have that dirt-box truffle hunter expecting us to simply swallow it on the nod because some mulatto whore who fucked his septuagenarian husband to death has inherited a couple of smutty etchings and wants to use them to meet the cunty Prince of Wales etc etc").

You get the idea? An artificial stand-off (Lord Vernon eventually plots an archaeological dig, pallid Charles the committee chairman wants to nurture a prize orchid), walking caricatures, creaking conceits. Never mind — the English comic novel *is* the comic novel by numbers, we all knew that. What gives Mr Gill's thrumming opus a risibility far beyond its wildest ambitions is the fixation with sex.

Basically AA imagines that we're all doing it, all the time and with whoever happens to be to hand. His characters, consequently, are all permanently in rut (apart from Angel Tenby, the gardener, who merely wanks into the compost) — a series of couplings described with such lack of grace, verve or comic effect that you could weep. "Oh Brad," a woman called Iona exclaims at one point. "It's a beauty, I knew you'd have an elegant penis." Charles (whom Iona affects to mistake for Brad Pitt) "performed cunnilingus like a peckish raccoon eating stewed prunes". A bit later Mrs Kotzen dismisses her Italian delivery boy ("It was jabbing, hard, fast, strong, common cold fucking"). Then we find Lord Barnstaple enjoying some three-in-a-bed fun ("You have botty, I'll take gobbles").

Never mind the necrophiliac Alsatian or the golden showers (no, I'm not kidding). Making a moral judgment here would be superfluous. The point about this wretched contrivance (Charles defeats Vern on a technicality if you're interested) is that it's utterly without humour, just dogged, brutish and curiously inhuman. Would you fancy getting to know A.A. Gill having read his notion of "comedy"? Thanks, but I'll pass on that one.

Now, how did this get published? Because, in a fraught marketplace, all publishers can think of doing is to chuck money at anything remotely celebrated or modish or infamous and trust that some of it will stick. And why did our man write it? At a guess because a) he wanted the dosh; b) he wanted some of the vague kudos that still mysteriously attaches itself to the business of writing a novel; and c) he wanted to annoy people. Well, he hit with numbers one and three.



BOOKS & BOOKMEN

■ "THEY told me to say it wasn't true. I made a statement to that effect which I am standing by," says Paul Inman — the highly trained ex-army mechanic, formally known as Paul Bruce, the ruthless SAS assassin — describing the current status of his police confession in a news agency interview.

This sabotages the marketing campaign for the paperback of *The Nemesis File* (see *Eyes passim*), the bestseller written by Paul Inman, which is fairly bad news for its publisher, John Blake. He has already printed 75,000 copies with

thousands more planned for later runs.

Laughably Blake still stands by the story (see Letters), even if Inman doesn't. The publisher claims there are dozens of dead bodies buried in mass graves which can be found in Northern Ireland at Ordnance Survey grid references 160534 and 182925. "It would take one man with a JCB a day to excavate either of these sites," notes the former *Sun* pop columnist and *People* editor, demanding that the Royal Ulster Constabulary get digging.

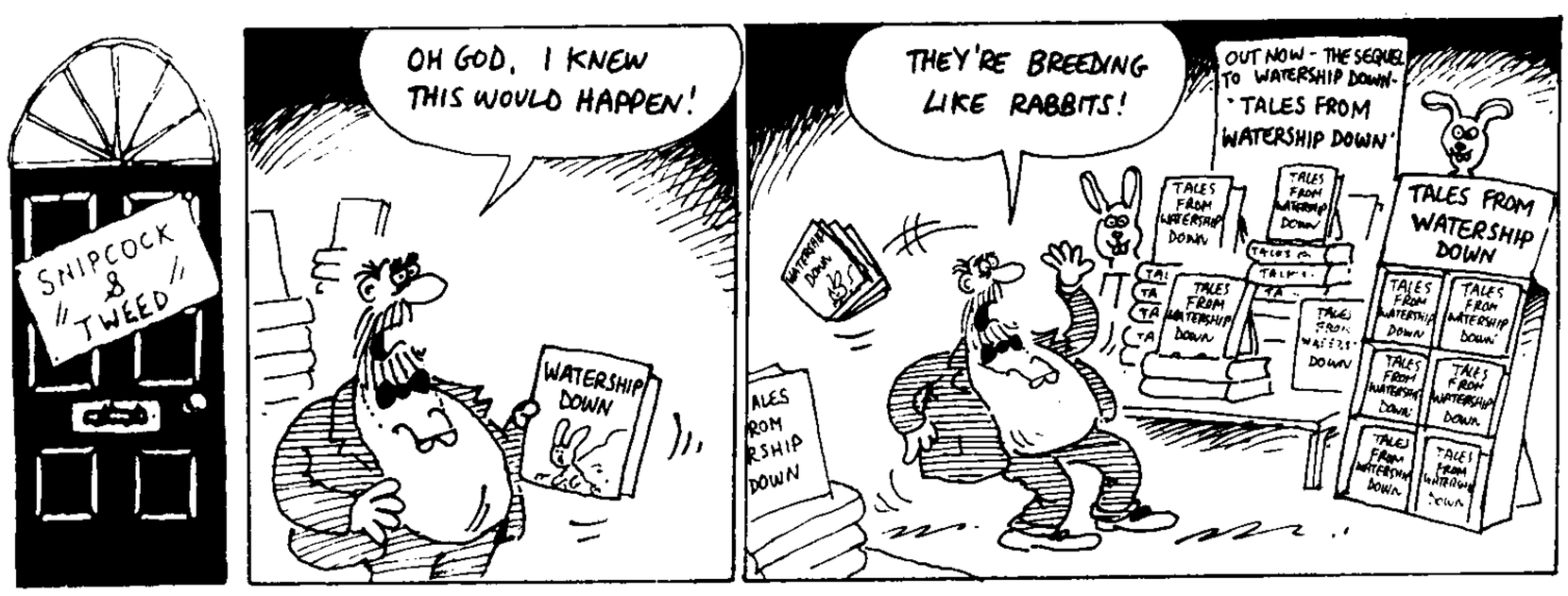
In fact there is nothing to stop Blake, who sold £1.7 million worth of hardbacks of the book) searching for what he claims are 30 bodies — none of which has been reported missing — visiting Northern Ireland and recovering the corpses himself, with the massive attendant publicity. Blake seems unwilling to settle the issue in this way, perhaps fearing the IRA's collective sense of humour might not stretch to tolerating someone claiming that there are dozens of dead Catholics buried in its backyard in order to make vast sums of money.

Meanwhile, Inman the frontman has not done as well financially as Blake or as the tome's true author, ex-Maxwell disciple Nick "Sneaky" Davies, who is planning to move to South Africa.

Davies of course has his own murky past. While foreign editor at the *Mirror* he was accused of meeting up with a prominent arms dealer in Ohio. He infamously said: "I have never been to Ohio in my life" — a statement refuted by the following day's *Daily Mail* which ran a picture of the forgetful foreign editor in Ohio with the aforesaid arms dealer. Even Maxwell could not prevent his sacking after that.

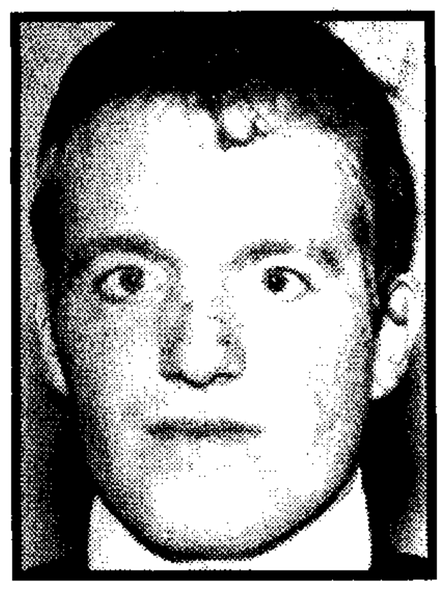
Talking of pictures, confidence is not exacrtly instilled by the photo facing page 185, which claims to be "The headquarters of the 39th Infantry Regiment (sic), Lisburne, 1971". In fact the photo is taken from Paul Foot's book *Who Framed Colin Wallace?* It is actually a photograph of the Army HQ Northern Ireland building and not HQ 39 Brigade.

'Bookworm'


SNIPCOCK & TWEED
OH GOD, I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!
WATERSHIP DOWN
THEY'RE BREEDING LIKE RABBITS!
OUT NOW - THE SEQUEL TO WATERSHIP DOWN - 'TALES FROM WATERSHIP DOWN'
TALES FROM WATERSHIP DOWN

footnotes

HANRATTY: THE FINAL VERDICT?



AS HE gets his breath after the prison fiasco, home secretary Michael Howard must decide soon on a much more horrific bungle: the hanging in 1962 of James Hanratty for the A6 murder.

The *Eye* can reveal that Det Chief Supt Roger Matthews, an experienced investigator from Scotland Yard's SO1 unit, has sent Howard his report on the A6 case. For 18 months he has been investigating a large dossier of vital new evidence compiled by Bob Woffinden, who produced a Yorkshire Television documentary about the case in 1992.

In a telephone conversation on 19 August with Lindon Booth, of Haze Lane, North Hykeham, near Lincoln, who is fascinated by the Hanratty case, Supt Matthews would not disclose what he had recommended in his report. But he added pointedly that until he looked into the Hanratty case, he had been a fervent supporter of capital punishment. Now, he opposed it. He invited Mr Booth to "draw your own conclusions" from that conversion. In April Mr Matthews was quoted in the *News of the World* casually telling colleagues that he believed Hanratty was entirely innocent of the A6 murder and had been wrongly hanged.

Supt Matthews's enquiries have revealed a familiar pattern of failure to disclose "awkward" evidence supporting the defence. An extraordinary example has recently come to light.

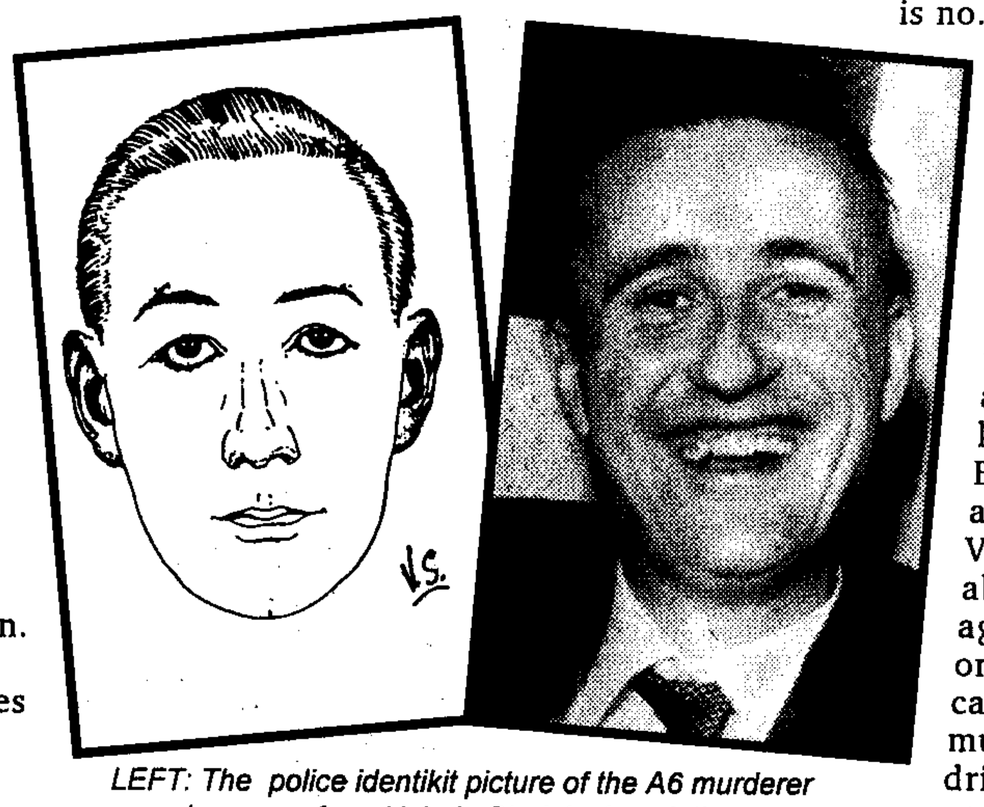
The mystery Morris Minor on Deadman's Hill

In the autumn of 1961 Michael Gregsten, a young scientist at the Road Research Laboratory in Slough, was having an affair with his fellow worker, Valerie Storie. The couple would meet after work and drive regularly to a cornfield at Dorney Reach, near Maidenhead. On 22 August 1961, Gregsten drove Valerie to the field in his aunt's grey Morris Minor. At about 9.30 in the evening they were interrupted by a knock on the window.

As Gregsten wound down the window a man thrust a gun inside. Saying he was on the run, the man climbed into the back of the car and forced Gregsten to drive through Slough, round north-west London to St Albans, and along the A6. At the top of Deadman's Hill, a few miles before Bedford, the car turned into a lay-by, set well back from the road. There the gunman shot Gregsten, assaulted Valerie Storie and forced her to help drag Gregsten's body from the car. Twice he asked her to start the car, and show him how to use the gears. Then, as she sat down on the grass verge beside her dead lover, he fired two volleys of shots at her, and with a great grinding of gears, drove off down the A6 towards Luton.

Valerie Storie was found, alive but paralysed, early the next morning and the story of the murder was immediately on the radio. A young couple who lived locally heard the news with some dismay and went immediately to the police station at Horne Lane, Bedford, where they made statements.

The young man had done his national service in the military police and for a short time had served in the Bedfordshire police. August 22 1961 was his 22nd birthday. He had taken his wife and two teenage relations for dinner in Luton. They had eaten late and wandered round the town for some time after their meal. They set off for home, he reckons, at about midnight or later. The A6 was almost deserted. He tells the *Eye*:



LEFT: The police identikit picture of the A6 murderer drawn up from Valerie Storie's description. RIGHT: Peter Alphon at the time

"We went through Clophill village, and as we started up Deadman's Hill we passed a grey Morris Minor which had stopped in the middle of the road. It was on the crown of the road, facing towards Luton. The headlights were full on. There was a man standing by the car leaning over the bonnet, which was closed. His face was towards the windscreen. He looked as though he was in trouble, and was perhaps consulting a map, though it was hard to see why he should be doing that outside the car. I turned my car round in a gateway, and headed back to him. By the time we drew up alongside him, he had hurried back into the car and was sitting in the driving seat. My wife wound down her window and was sitting right alongside him."

His wife takes up the story. "We asked him if he was in trouble and if we could help. He told us abruptly and abusively to mind our own business and leave him alone. As he spoke, he leaned right over towards the passenger seat and turned away from us. But we both got a reasonable look at him in the lights of the car". Husband and wife told this story to separate CID officers at Horne Lane. No one in authority showed the slightest interest. The couple were never interviewed again. Their statements were never disclosed.

Earlier this year, the couple read a story about the A6 murder in *Bedfordshire on Sunday*, an independent local paper which has consistently publicised the Hanratty case. They contacted the paper and told their story, some of which was published on 30 June. The Hanratty family's lawyer Geoffrey Bindman asked the home office if the couple's original statements had been investigated in the Scotland Yard inquiry. The home office replied: "The short answer is no." The *Eye* understands, however, that both statements have since been seen by Supt Matthews and that they tell almost exactly the same story which the couple tell today.

What is the significance of all this? Initially, it seems unlikely that the car seen by the couple was the murder car. Valerie Storie put the time of the murder much later — at between two and three o-clock in the morning, at least an hour and a half after the Bedford couple's encounter with the abusive driver on Deadman's Hill. But Valerie Storie was consistently vague about timing. Questioned again and again about exact timings, she insisted on giving approximate times.The stalled car on the crown of the road fits with the murderer's obvious incompetence as a driver. The car had stalled twice while he was trying to understand how to drive it. He could not work the gears. He had driven off towards Luton, the direction the Morris Minor seen by the couple was pointing. The likelihood that there were two grey Morris Minors driven in the same direction by drivers behaving oddly on Deadman's Hill in the middle of the same night is difficult to credit.

The mystery of the long night drive

James Hanratty was an accomplished car thief. He could drive any make of car without difficulty. The first suspect for the murder, Peter Alphon, who has since confessed to the murder, had little or no driving experience. In his confessions Alphon admitted to getting lost and having trouble with the car in the hours after the murder. The murder car was seen at seven o'clock the following morning, weaving its uncertain way down Eastern Avenue, Gants Hill, east London, no more than a hour and a half's drive from Deadman's Hill.

The couple who saw the Morris Minor on the night of the murder have closely followed the A6 case ever since. They studied the two identikit pictures of the murderer issued by the police soon after the murder. They reckon that the first picture, made up from Valerie Storie's description, is strikingly similar to the man they saw by the Morris Minor that August night in 1961. The picture bears a remarkable likeness to Peter Alphon. The couple are also certain that the man they saw looked nothing like James Hanratty.

According to the home office, their decision on the case can be expected "shortly".

OMBUSHED!

THE government has moved swiftly to emasculate the role of the pensions ombudsman Dr Julian Farrand, after disturbing signs that he intends to carry out his responsibilities without proper regard for the rich and the mighty (see last *Eye*).

A few weeks after Farrand's decision that one of the government's favourite companies, Hillsdown Holdings (who made a lovely fishpond for environment secretary John Gummer; whose chairman is former defence secretary John Nott; and whose former director is Tory MP and Shirley Porter clone Barry Legg) had illegally swiped £25 million from its pensioners, bureaucrats from the department of social security pounced. They declared that Dr Farrand's investigators had been too highly graded — as senior executive officers at £31,000. From October they will start to be paid as mere higher executive officers at £21,000: a record-breaking pay cut of some 30 per cent.

That will teach Dr Farrand and his team to humiliate one of the biggest firms in the country. Ministers also hope it might dissuade him from his *preliminary* view that they themselves wrongfully swiped £200 million from the pension fund of the National Bus Company when it was carved up and privatised in 1986. If Dr Farrand upholds that view, the government will owe the National Bus pensioners £200 million plus ten years' interest.

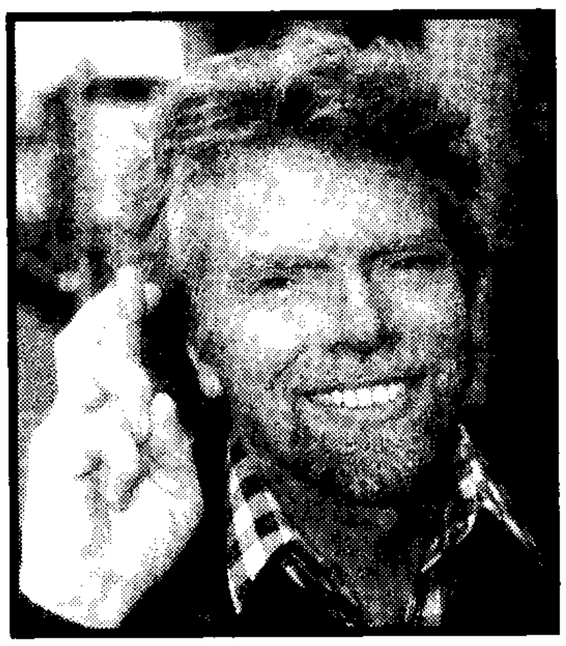
Pirated from Penzance?

■ TONY JARMAN, a businessman in Penzance, was rather surprised to read in the *Sunday Times* on 21 July that Richard Branson, of Virgin, was planning to break into the multi-million pound jeans market. He was even more surprised to hear that Branson's fellow-balloonist, millionaire Roy McCarthy, "came to the Virgin chairman with the idea last January, and the pair have been working on it ever since".

Mr Jarman was surprised because he had written to Virgin last January with a detailed plan for, er, breaking into the jeans market. Despite constant telephone calls and more letters, including one to Richard Branson himself, no one at Virgin would give him an answer.

After reading the *Sunday Times* report, Jarman telephoned McCarthy, who told him it was accurate. When Jarman mentioned his own approach to Virgin with a similar proposal the same month, McCarthy thought again and considered that the idea might have been first discussed rather earlier than January. Not convinced, Jarman wrote once more to Virgin and was at last told, by Brad Rosser, Virgin's corporate development manager, that "we did actually start developing this proposal prior to receiving your original correspondence".

The *Eye* asked Virgin if it had stolen the jeans idea from Mr Jarman or if it had deliberately not replied to his suggestion in order to stave off a potential competitor. At first Virgin's spokesman replied testily: "We've had lots of correspondence with this man and we told him quite simply at the beginning that we were not interested in his project."



RICHARD BRANSON: Balloonist

The *Eye* asked for a single example of that "lots of correspondence". An hour or two later the Virgin spokesman changed his tune. "I've checked my facts now," he said, "and the facts are that we didn't respond to this guy and we should have done. But what I am maintaining as an absolute fact is that at no time and in no way and in no case has his concept had any influence on our decision to do what we're doing with a joint venture partner who has come to us with a different project. And if he makes any assertion that that is the case, then he's wrong. But we were remiss. We should have got back to him."

SELFLESS: Dr Brian Davis

Nationwide boys

■ DIRECTORS of the Nationwide, Britain's biggest building society, are constantly boasting that they are proud to have resisted the temptation to become a bank or a PLC.

To prove that they are a cut above all those fat-cat directors of, say, the Halifax or the Leeds or Abbey, they are busy making themselves, er, the fattest cats of all. Their latest report and accounts proclaim that they are generously dispensing with something called the "three-year medium term bonus" with which they have supplemented their ordinary run-of-the-mill annual bonuses in recent years. To compensate for this awesome selflessness, they have paid themselves what's left of the next three-year bonus in one go. Thus Dr Brian Davis, chief executive got £73,000 on top of his annual bonus of £39,000 on top of his salary of £225,000, (and then, in an orgasm of abstemiousness, "waived" £45,000 of his £112,000 bonus). The other directors in the bonus scheme were A.R.H. Dales, who got £72,000 on top of his annual bonus of £28,000 on top of his salary of £140,000 and B.K. Simpson, who got £64,000 on top of his annual bonus of £25,000 on top of his salary of £125,000.

PS. Only one member of the Nationwide Board was initially nominated and elected by the society's members. All the rest were appointed or co-opted.

PPS. The huge bonuses and salaries of the directors are believed to be associated with what they call the "thousand a year" policy, which means sacking a thousand people a year. This year, they just made it. They employed 11,784 people, compared with 12,787 last year.

PPPS. Nationwide's slogan is "In tune with people".

PROLIER THAN THOU...

"HE HAS a company limo, but always sits up front with the driver, not in the back like everyone else."

Puff profile of Mike Blackburn, who as chief executive of the Halifax Building Society is about to make himself a multi-millionaire from the Halifax's pending flotation. Sunday Telegraph, *25 August.*

Ready mixed contact

■ THE cement industry is furious that the high court has granted leave for judicial review of the decision of the government's new quango, the Environment Agency, to allow the burning of liquid fuel derived from chemical waste at a plant in Whitwell, Derbyshire.

The fuel will now be used in cement plants all over the country, where it will cut the industry's fuel costs by 25 per cent. Environmentalists protest that the new fuel is dangerously destructive of food grown in the area.

The Environment Agency is pretty cross, too. It enthusiastically endorsed the decision of the pollution inspectorate (HMIP) to approve the burning of the fuel at Whitwell. Soon afterwards HMIP was absorbed into the Environment Agency. The chairman of HMIP's advisory committee was Chris Hampson CBE, who is now on the board of the Environment Agency.

Mr Hampson, pictured here, is also chairman of Ready Mixed Concrete, one of the biggest cement firms in the country.

If you want to know about perks, don't ask the COI

■ TRY not to ask staff at the central office of information (COI) any questions about government policy on pay and perks: in the last year, nearly a quarter of all jobs at the COI have gone.

The remaining workforce has struggled to meet its "turnover and break-even targets" and has increased efficiency by 3.4 per cent. The place now throbs with congratulations and staff have been given a whopping bonus of, er, 0.5 per cent.

Now the workers read in the COI's annual report that their boss, chief executive Mike Devereau, has also got a bonus — of 10 per cent or £6,297.

You can write to Paul Foot at 6 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG, or leave a message for him on 0171 287 3183

In the City

CERTAIN City banks are becoming at the very least somewhat irritated by the actions (or, to be more precise, lack of action) of a leading Saudi royal: Prince Fahd bin Salman, eldest son of King Fahd's influential brother, Prince Salman, the governor of Riyadh.

Over the years Prince Fahd has been a good customer of London banks — one reputed lender has been Citibank and another the collapsed Bank of Credit & Commerce International — in part a result of his forays on the turf and in the auction rooms. But suggestions that he may owe up to £30 million to banks in London are clearly as untrue as they are exaggerated — as is the rumour that one bank is holding a valuable Gainsborough painting in its vault as security.

However, part of the large black tent covering Prince Fahd's financial affairs was lifted some weeks ago as a result of a court case brought by the BCCI liquidators over the little matter of $397,000 owed to the rogue bank. Since 1994 the liquidators had been seeking repayment of this money under a guarantee given by the prince for the overdraft of an offshore company, Colchest Corporation NV. In an unusual response, Prince Fahd sought to offset against this debt money held at another BCCI branch in the name of one Esam Ghazzawi, claiming that this was his money. The court of appeal rejected this suggestion on the basis that it was unclear who owned what in the Ghazzawi accounts.

But in any event BCCI and other banks who have had dealings with Prince Fahd can rest assured that any and all debts will be paid, if not by him than by his family whose wealth is unquestioned.

THE Serious Farce Office will soon have to address the sensitive matter of whether former assistant director and Polly Peck prosecutor Lorna Harris is to return to Elm Street after her conveniently arranged secondment to the Association for Payment Clearing Services.

That three-year secondment is expected to end this month, and SFO colleagues believe Harris wants to return to her old job. But the road back may be blocked by the SFO's internal disciplinary investigation into certain aspects of her handling of the Nadir case.

The investigation was launched as a result of the humiliation suffered by attorney-general Sir Nicholas Lyell when in December 1993 he had to admit to having misled parliament with an "incomplete" statement over the circulation of possibly privileged Nadir defence documents by the SFO.

The internal investigation carried out by SFO deputy director John Knox is understood to have found against Harris on several counts over her actions regarding the Nadir case. As a result, she was admonished: a serious finding for a civil servant. However, a vigorous appeal against this decision is subsequently believed to have overturned the verdicts on all but one minor matter.

On the face of it that should open the Elm Street door to her return to the fraudbusters. But even though Nadir is still sunning himself in Northern Cyprus with no likelihood of return, it is far from certain that Lyell and possibly soon to step down director George Staple may be enthusiastic. But given that she has been effectively cleared of any wrongdoing, how Harris can be refused if she persists in wanting to make an SFO comeback may present a problem.

Meanwhile Fearless Fred Coford, the hero of perhaps the SFO's finest hour — Roger Levitt's community service "sentence", and the man nominally in charge of the Nadir case — has been welcomed back from his secondment to Lloyd's: news to cheer fraudsmen everywhere.

FACIA chairman Stephen Hinchliffe would appear to know as little about corporate law as he does about running a business.

Last week's far from revealing interview with the *Financial Times* found him defending the payment of finders' fees and the making of interest free loans from Facia to his other private companies as perfectly acceptable because they were private companies and he was the common owner.

Hinchliffe may soon be taught the painful lesson that companies are not like pockets, corporate money cannot be simply moved from one to the other. The reason — each company is a separate legal entity and each has creditors whose interests must be protected by the directors. Given Facia's debts of up to £70 million, these admissions, the up to £10 million transferred and the ongoing SFO investigation, it may not be very long before an inspector will be calling.

THE credentials of those involved in the Titan Business Club pyramid scam banned by the courts as an illegal lottery get ever seedier.

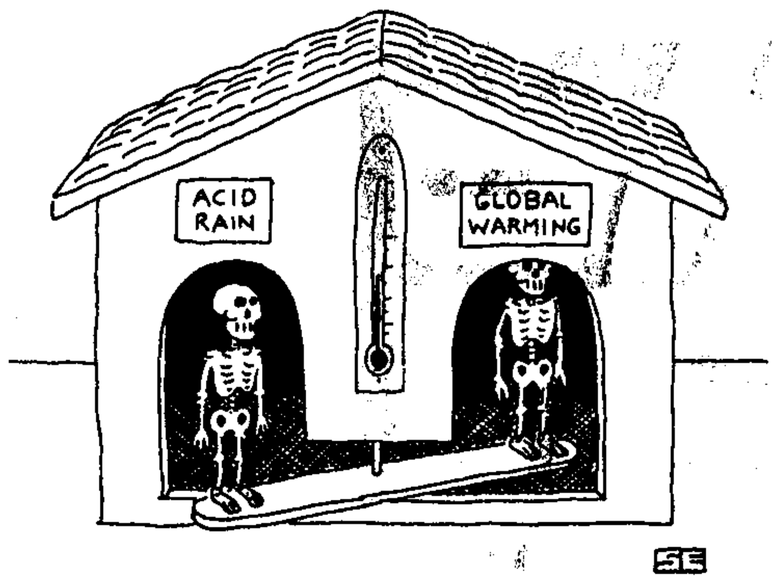
First there was financially challenged lawyer Charles Buckley. Then there was convicted fraud and drug offender John Carway. Now it emerges that another member of the hole-in-the-wallet gang based at London's Inn on the Park hotel, Titan's "corporate finance adviser" Peter Sealey is bankrupt.

Sealey is a former solicitor who was made bankrupt in March 1994 by the Royal Bank of Scotland with debts of more than £1 million. No doubt he has done somewhat better out of Titan than the thousands of mugs who have invested £2,500 to £3,000 each in the hope of finding a bigger fool.

SOME substantial skeletons may yet emerge from the Guyana forests to haunt ill-fated and forgetful businessman Rupert Galliers-Pratt and his long-time associate Lord Beaverbrook, whose bankruptcy was in part due to their South American adventure.

"RPG" and Beaverbrook were involved in a 1991 deal to buy the Demerara Woods timber concession from the Guyana government. A deal was done between the Georgetown government and Timber Holdings, a Cayman Islands company controlled by Beaverbrook and Galliers-Pratt, who then flipped the Demerara deal into United Dutch Group which later collapsed.

UDG never completed the $16.5 million payment for Demerara Woods and is now under the control of a receiver appointed by French bank Credit Lyonnais as a result of the Dutch company



becoming entangled with Italian conmen Giancarlo Parretti and Florio Fiorini — both now in jail. By some amazing arithmetic, Demerara was valued at £60 million when it was acquired by UDG for shares which were said to have made Beaverbrook and pals a huge but shortlived paper profit.

However, it has now emerged that Timber Holdings agreed to pay $2.25 million to a local politically connected "fixer", Percy Boyce, in Guyana to help ease the deal with the government. Boyce was paid $1.763 million by the Beaverbrook Consortium, a company in the Netherlands Antilles which also guaranteed the balance. But this was not paid and Boyce has filed an action in Guyana naming Beaverbrook, Galliers-Pratt and their UDG partner, Danish businessman Jan Bonde-Nielsen of Wembley fame (who underwrote the payment) as defendants with Timber Holdings.

Curiously Boyce claims the money was not his but "only passing through me". The fee, he says, was to be split four ways locally. "It was not my cash but in my name." Boyce denies, however, that any of the money was to go to local politicians or officials as has been rumoured. Furthermore, he claims that the $500,000 balance outstanding was in whole or part to be paid back to "RPG" and his partners in London!

At the time Timber Holdings was negotiating the Demerara deal the Guyana government was assured that its liabilities would be guaranteed by its two owners — Beaverbrook Investments in Switzerland and Fondation Devanebo in Liechtenstein.

"Mr Rupert Galliers-Pratt and his family are the beneficiaries of Fondation Devanebo" declared the New York lawyers acting for Timber Holdings.

FAILURE of the Hays bid for Christian Salvesen did not come as a disappointment to everyone.

While Hays and its advisers were seeking to establish the size and loyalty of the Salvesen family share stake in late June-early July, shares in the transport group began to move up.

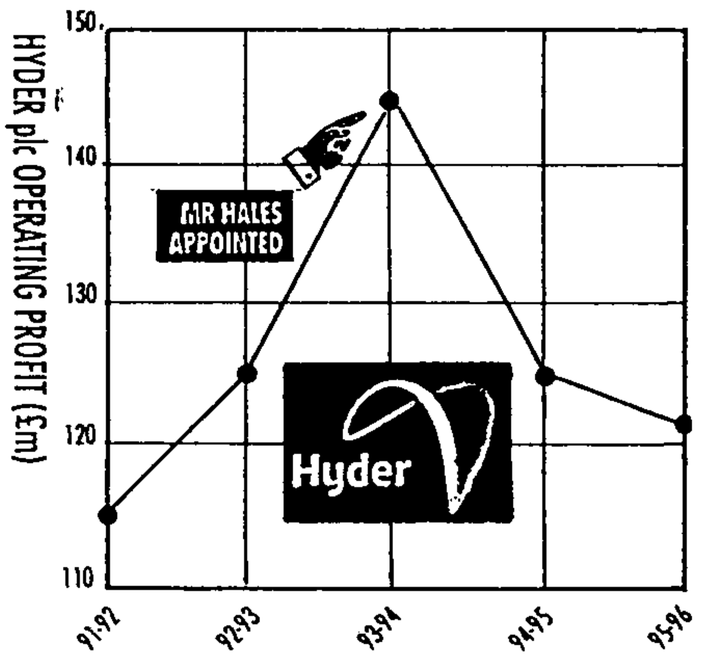
By the time of the 370p-a-share bid in mid-July Salvesen had already risen from around 250p to nearer 280p. The bid sent the price soaring to 366p, which is what insider dealers definitely would see as a result. Not of course that proof of who told whom and who bought and sold is likely to reach any regulators.

'Slicker'

JOHN KENT PRESENTS
JOHN MAJOR'S SENSATIONAL BIG TOP CIRCUS & MENAGERIE
THE EYES HAVE IT
TELL ME LORD SAATCHI... WHAT GAVE YOU THE IDEA FOR YOUR POSTER?
NEW LABOUR NEW DANGER

British Management Part 42.

TONY HALES, Chief Executive Allied Domecq, Chairman CBI National Manufacturing Council, Director Hyder (formerly Welsh Water) plc since September 1993.



PRIVATE EYE

SUBSCRIPTIONS ORDER FORM

Mortimer House, 230-236 Lavender Hill, London SW11 1LE

PRICE: £17 (Europe & Eire: £25, Airmail/rest of the world: £33)

I enclose cheque for £ ..... for a year's subscription (26 issues) **OR** please charge ACCESS/VISA

Card number: ..... Expiry date: .....

Please send magazines to: (please print and use the postcode)

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Cardholder's name and address if different from above: (please print and use the postcode)

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Overseas subscribers please note: payment must be made by International Money Order OR Banker's Draft in £ sterling drawn on London OR ACCESS/VISA

WHY NOT JUST- **DIAL - A - SUB 0171 228 0425**
FAX - A - SUB 0171 924 3719

Off-shore Personal Investment Planning with VIP Service

Are you looking for an off-shore banking partner? In that case contact us regarding accounts in Jyske Bank in Copenhagen, Zürich, or Gibraltar.

Jyske Bank offers all that you should expect of an off-shore bank; security, quality and discretion. And as a bank with Danish roots, we offer you something extra; a professional and friendly service no matter how large your investment.

In Jyske Bank you can build your portfolio with various investment products - from high-interest bearing current accounts with Visa card, to mutual funds and individual securities portfolios.

We trust that you will find, that Jyske Bank is just the partner you have been looking for.

For further information on Personal Investment Advice in Jyske Bank mail or fax the coupon or pay us a visit on Internet: http://www.Jyske-Bank.dk/PBI. You are also welcome to contact Jyske Bank (London), **Freepost LON 5323, London E1 8BR. Freephone: 0 800 378 415.**

This advertisement is approved by Jyske Bank (London) who is regulated by SFA for the conduct of investment business in the UK.

Jyske Bank is Denmark's fourth largest bank and employs 2,600 people in 122 domestic branches and a number of subsidiaries in various European countries. Jyske Bank is a public company quoted on the Copenhagen Stock Exchange with more than 160,000 share holders.

JYSKE BANK

Private Banking the Friendly Way

For further information please fill in the coupon and send it to Jyske Bank (London), 10-12 Alie Street, GB-London E1 8DE, England. tel. +44 171 264 7700, fax: +44 171 264 7717.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal code/City _____ Country _____

Tel. _____ Fax _____

560-248

The investment services undertaken on your behalf (or provided to you) are not covered by the rules and regulations made for the protections of investors in UK. Accounts established in non EC entities are not protected under the Deposit Protection Schemes adopted by the Bank in the UK or Denmark.

specialEYEs

meeting people

SIRIUS

The Intelligent Person's Introduction Agency

Call free (24 hrs) on 0800 072 0075 for

- Brochure
- Descriptions of the first 24 people in your area you may wish to meet
- CD or Tape with further details

FREEPOST 305 London EC1B 1SY

The Largest and Longest Established agency with personal interviews

Wherever you live your local representative is likely to be within 25 miles

8.30am to 10pm 7 days/wk

drawing down *the* moon

THE THINKING PERSON'S INTRODUCTION AGENCY

"the agency people rave about"

COSMOPOLITAN

Adam & Eve Mews, Kensington

0171-937 6263

24 hours

ABIA code supported by Office of Fair Trading Est.1984

Give us the outline...

...and we'll fill in the detail

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS of the best kind plc

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL INTRODUCTIONS by Professional Consultants

0171 289 3701
0171 289 3777

clubs

THE BLUE ANGEL GENTLEMENS CLUB

Open from 12 Midday till late - Monday-Friday

For Reservations and Enquiries Call:
0171 636 2178/637 2765

17 Little Portland Street (off top end of Regent Street) **London W1**

THE DINNER CLUB

ARE YOU AN UNATTACHED PROF/BUS PERSON?

Meet new friends whilst dining & dancing
Branches nationwide • Not a dating agency
TEL (01244) 350537
Bus opps available in some areas

To use this page please call Irene Evans on
0171 437 2717

services

LONDON CONVEYANCING AT PROVINCIAL RATES

eg £300 plus VAT and disbursements for a purchase price of less than £150,000. Please telephone Peter Brooks for further details.

Bevans solicitors

155 Whiteladies Road
Clifton
Bristol
BS8 2RF
Tel: 0117 923 7249
Fax: 0117 923 7253

MORTGAGES

Are you U.K. resident, ex-patriate or foreign national?
(well that's the whole world covered!)
Wanting to buy a main residence, second home or investment property?
Then you should call Rod Murdison on 0181 291 9333 with your requirements
(fax 0181 699 8131)

MURDISON & BROWNING

Special rent & buy scheme if you've been unable to sell

SPEECHWRITING SERVICES

CORPORATE • SOCIAL • POLITICAL

Fully Customised and confidential

MAKE EM LAUGH OR NO FEE!

Emergency Speeches Undertaken

Britain's leading Professional

MITCH MURRAY

01624 622660

Access - Visa - Mastercard

personal

Public Notice

the Phone Café

24 HRS

CONFUSED BY THE REST?

WHERE ALL THE WOMEN ARE GENUINE CALLERS

0891 30 31 71

Calls Cost 39p/min cheap rate, 49p/min all other times
1PC Box No 28, 9-3 Cowcross St London, EC1M 6BH

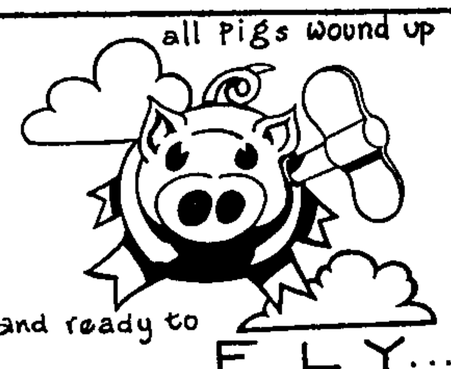
motors

Cooper Reading

- SALES
- SERVICE
- PARTS

Born again riding lessons on BMWs
New and Used BMWs -
All used bikes include BMW warranty.
Kings Meadow Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8BN
0118 950 0100

for sale



↑(PRINTED ON FRONT OF SHIRTS)
CODE PRINTED ON REVERSE:-
9605A - TORIES SET TO WIN ELECTION.....
9605B - BRITAIN ACCEPTS DIRECT BRUSSELS RULE....
- PRINTED BLACK & BLUE ON WHITE SHIRTS
- QUALITY 'FRUIT OF THE LOOM'
T-SHIRTS ONLY £9.99 EA.
+ POSTAGE £1.50 FOR ANY SIZE ORDER
CHEQS/PO'S TO:-
B.C.M. PROMOTIONS
FREEPOST SWB10057
TAUNTON. TA3 5BR
TEL 01823 491119 (24HRS)
FOR A FREE BROCHURE NOW!

SCARE THE SHIT OUT OF FRIENDS, FAMILY, BOSS ETC WITH

THE AUTOMATIC RAT

Runs up the wall every time the bog door opens

ONLY £3.95 (inc p&p)

CHEQUES & POSTAL ORDERS TO:
UTILITY ART, 72 CHARLOTTE STREET, LONDON W1P 1LR

ALLOW UP TO 14 DAYS DELIVERY

A new collection from Bill Watterson

CALVIN & HOBBES:

There's Treasure Everywhere

and many other newspaper strip collections are now available from

Gosh!

39 Great Russell st. London WC1B 3PH.
Open 7 days a week 10am - 6pm.
Late nights Thurs & Fri till 7pm.
Tel. 0171-636-1011. Fax 0171-436-5053. E-Mail gosh-com@easynet.co.uk
Book costs £8.99. Please add £3.00 P&P if by mail.

GENUINE BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS

From famous archive saved from1642-1995. Also Sunday Newspapers from 1915. Ready for presentation. Same day dispatch.

REMEMBER WHEN
520 Purley Way,
Croydon CR0 4RE.

0181 688 6323

Life's a Piece of Shit

(WHEN YOU THINK OF IT)

Cheer up! We challenge even the straightest of faeces not to crack playing TOILET HUMOUR — the hilarious card game that get's you GOING! Cheap laugh, ideal gift, only $6.99 (inc P&P). FREE catalogue inc. Telegraph Game of the Year...

Tel (01983) 280666 (24hr) Fax (01983) 280777
Email: po@polygon1.demon.co.uk

Phil O'Neill games (PE)
FREEPOST, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 8BR
http://www.cyberisland.co.uk/games

PRIVATE EYE SMALLS
Classified Lineage Advertisements
£1.75 per word inclusive
0171 439 1151

Deadline for next issue — **Tuesday 10th September**

QUOTE

An ambulance crew was asked to race through traffic, with blue lights flashing, only to find a woman with itchy legs, while another "life or death" call ended up dealing with a man who had hiccups. The staff from Whipps Cross Ambulance Station even had to cope with a pregnant woman's husband, who called for ambulance assistance because she needed to get to hospital and he had just ordered a pizza.

Tony Bassett, Evening Standard

NEW TERM dictates mathematician must find secret formulae to ensure continued musicians development.

SPEECHWRITING by Mitch Murray. See Page 30.

ROBERT MADDERN — Please contact DAVID.

HARRI, I REMEMBER you still from the ST CROSS' BALL in June and would dearly love to dance and sing with you again and smell your auburn hair. A dark haired, dark eyed Irish boy.

TRACKS OF YOUR TEARS — The Official UK Music Charts reproduced fron any week since March 1960. An ideal gift for music fans. Freephone 0800 2799888.

DUMMY DIPLOMAS — Impressive, Professional, choose your Award! DETAILS sae to OAKSHALL, PO Box 1664, Ringwood BH24 2BN.

DEGREE CERTIFICATES in Toastburning, Bedworthiness, Floorscrubbing? Anything! Superb reproductions. Sae for details: NUMBER ONE, The Butchery, Sandwich. CT13 9DL.

IMPRESSIVE CERTIFICATES made to order. S.A.E. to P L Quinn "Rose Cottage" 54 Murat Street Waterloo Liverpool L22 8QW.

CARICATURES FROM photographs. 01639 644292.

BALLOON FLIGHTS Berks/ Hants/ Herts/Oxon/Surrey and over London! £115 — ADVENTURE BALLOONS 0181-840 0108.

ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING printed onto a T-shirt, 01524 841286 (daytimes). Bulk/trade enquiries welcome.

JOKE PARKING tickets. Wind up friends/enemies! £4 0589 507524 after 5pm.

CUSTOMISE YOUR loo seat! Art Looveau will fabricate a unique work of art using your ideas. 0181 428 1101.

TURN YOUR favourite snapshot into a large 1000 piece Jigsaw Puzzle, 27" by 19". Attractively boxed with 10 word personalised label for £29.99 including UK P/P. Send 35mm negative and photoprint, text, address and cheque to Begg Todifer Ltd, 8 Woodville Park, Glasgow G51 2RL. Delivery 21 days.

VICTOR LEWIS-SMITH'S hilarious new album 'Nuisance Calls', An outrageous collection of celebrity phone calls that the BBC refused to broadcast now available on cassette. Send cheques/postal orders for £8.99p to: ARTV PO Box 6, Millom, LA19 5GA.

A TITLE FOR A TENNER? Oh yes! Details from SURVIVAL, Durn Cottage, Scotscalder, Scotland KW12 6XJ.

FREE WILDFLOWER catalogue. BRANAS, Llandderfel, Gwynedd, LL23 7RF.

LIVE CARICATURISTS! 0181 520 7262.

BALLOON SAFARIS — around London/South East — gift vouchers 0784 451007.

TOILET HUMOUR — see faecing page. 01983 280666.

BIRTHDATE / ANNIVERSARY newspapers — FREEPHONE 0800 906609.

HUMOROUS CARICATURES — photos/live. 01327 359213.

YOUR CRICKET GIFT problems solved. Unusual cricket gifts and trophies. Ring for CRICKETER GIFT CATALOGUE, 01892 740697.

TEACHERS—DOCTORS & Nurses — firemen — flying ducks — cops & robbers: SAE for wall-plaque catalogue: SAE for wall-plaque catalogue: INTO DESIGN, 28 Eastern Place, Brighton. (Access/Visa) 01273 606240.

CARICATURES FROM photos — 01633 877768.

NOVELTY GIFT — own land in Scotland! Deed/certificate proves you SCOTTISH LAIRD. 01322 613662 (also AGENTS WANTED).

NAME A STAR for the one you love. INTERNATIONAL STAR REGISTRY allocates and registers name of your choice in USA & Switzerland. Fab gift pack includes splendid colour certificate inscribed in calligraphy and star chart pinpointing exact location. £55 inclusive. Call Freephone 0800 212493 or write ISR, Freepost, 24 Highbury Grove, London N5 2BR.

RELAXATION & meditation CDs - 0113 2634094.

EXQUISITE QUALITY reproduction oil paintings at realistic prices. 01242 241110.

RADIO CONTROLLED WATCHES & clocks — phenomenally accurate Junghans, Kundo and Zeon Tech timepieces by Mail Order. Free catalogue. CORNEAL CLOCKS & WATCHES, FREEPOST LS6541B, Leeds, LS8 5YY. Tel: 0113 293 7437 (24hrs 7 days).

OLD PERSIAN RUGS — Mostly £100-£3,000. Shed not shop, telephone first. DESMOND NORTH, East Peckham, Kent. 01622 871353.

LOGS DELIVERED — London, 10 x 40lb sacks £58. OAK/ASH £65. 0181 691 4984.

MOONSHINE BIBLE — 270 page book covering all aspects of converting vegetables into alcohol. £15 inclusive. Access/Visa/Amex/Switch 01273 203500.

WONDERFUL ORIGINAL ART— The Gallery, North Street, Winchcombe, Cheltenham, Glucestershire.

EVERGREEN HYDROPONICS (UK) — New Quantum-ponics! distributor Europe: ECO nutrients (dry/liquid), lights/kits/accessories for your every need! (Brighton) 01273 623136.

TOP GEAR, LOW FINANCE — Prestigious second user company cars for small and new businesses. From Cavaliers to Porsche to Lexus. Maintenance inclusive and NO PGs. Call us at DUNCTON LEASING on 01798 343850.

IF MUSIC be the food of love GET STUFFED at Richer Sounds. Freephone 0500 10 11 12 (24 hrs) for your FREE 24-page catalogue/ branch list.

BREAKFAST WITH HERONS: 1-bed floating home, beautiful London mooring, £24,950. Why pay more? 0171 722 1659.

FREE BOOKSEARCH SERVICE — 01737 216708.

CLUB X — Private contacts, weekly adult parties, exclusive magazine, couples/singles. Tel: 07000 781 652.

BOOKS ON CONTROVERSIAL and sexual subjects.Impotence, Aphrodisiacs, Sexual Hypnosis, Enlargement etc. Only £4.99 ea/incl. Sae for remarkable lists. KENT PRIVATE CLINIC, Sandwich CT13 9DL.

LITTLE SHORT STORY Literary Competition. £3000 cash prizes to be won. £1000 first prize. Just send SAE to Books Bought Bookshop, 357 King's Road, London SW3 5EF. Tel. 0171 352 9376, open 7 days, buying 7 days.

SABOTAGE & dirty tricks — Have you veer utilised or fallen victim to sabotage or dirty tricks? Personal, corporate or political. C4 documentary producers want to hear your story. Contact Simon Cooper in confidence. 0171 435 1007 or write "BCM-Summer", 27 Old Gloucester St, London WC1N 3XX

GENUINE STUDENT desperately needing funds for research. Possible computer work for benefactor. Box 3306.

ANY MILLIONAIRE/ lottery winner out there willing to LEND me £1/2m (interest-free) to help me grow my business. You will get it back when I die — promise. Sort 20 53 30 Account 40944130 or Box 3406

HAS ANYONE you know ever had a BARB 'people meter' attached to their television? 0181 761 7897

AIR-MILES — 01273 689578.

EVER ADVERTISED for cash in EYE NEED? Discreet friendly journalist seeks your story. Box 3106.

WANTED — DWELLING required for spiritual retreat based on simple Christian/Quaker principles in exchange for renovation decoration and prayers. Long lease at a peppercorn. Box 3206.

WIN THE LOTTERY! New ingenious system guarantees results. Rush 2x26p stamps for FREE DETAILS to 21st Century, 57 Castle Circus House, 136 Union Street, Torquay TQ2 5QB

IPSILON, A guaranteed package producing sevenfold profits. 68 Horsfall Street, Leeds, LS27 9QY.

WANT YOUR life back? Call 01426 955512.

ENTREPRENEURIAL DRIVE? Ultimate new futuristic/realistic global business opportunity. Tel 01884 841151.

REALISTICALLY £1,000 to £5,000 per month — call JEFF on 01993 811419.

EARN A FORTUNE by saving one! DETAILS, 50 pence p/p, MND MARKETING, PO 566, St Helier, Jersey.

£300 PER DAY for 2 hours work — Not MLM etc. Recorded message telephone 01325 250529.

EYES 500+ from 1968. 0114 245 5217

RENT SURVEILLANCE equipment for de-bugging or find out who's bugging you! Also — briefcase recorders, phone taps etc. CALL MACH-1 0181 230 5459.

PHONES TAPPED? Premises bugged? FINDERS COUNTER SURVEILLANCE 0181 203 1904.

SURVEILLANCE PRODUCTS room bugs, telephone taps, detectors, cameras, from £20. 01483 570417 / 0374 949630

U-SPY — Bugs, Lock Picks, Video, Surveillance and Countermeasures, Equipment and Services 0181 786 7143, http: // ally.ios.com / ~cna / uspy / htmls / uspyhome.htm

CLEVER DICK Investigations. EX-DIRECTORY numbers obtained, 0181 207 5040.

VERY CONFIDENTIAL Investigations Surveillance and Tracing Specialist. Call/Fax ASD INVESTIGATION 0181 932 5411. Email — asd1@msn.com

LINK INVESTIGATIONS — the private and commercial INFORMATION AGENCY. Professional, confidential, 0973 842330.

SELF-ASSESSMENT Ready or Not? A full tax and accountancy service. Open when YOU NEED IT! Initial meeting gratis. Reasonable rates thereafter. Interested? Call ABBEY ACCOUNTANCY on 0181 392 8609.

NEED AN EFFECTIVE CV? Confidential, efficient service provided. 0181 977 5948. Phone or fax.

ACCOMMODATION ADDRESS/ Secretarial. Confidential — exceptional — inexpensive. POSTHASTE, Croydon 0181 688 8144.

BLACKLISTED? The 1996 non-status CREDIT DIRECTORY. Contains over 1000 companies who don't credit check or refuse. Mortgages, loans, credit cards, vehicle finance, etc. Get whatever credit you want guaranteed or your money back. 24 hour post-back — £9.99 payable to B. GROVE, 43 Brook Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands.

MALE, 36, ADEPT, educated, requires challenging lucrative employment in Far East. Box 0404.

BANKRUPTCY ASSOCIATION — 01482 658701.

FENG SHUI CONSULTANT — excellent results, reasonable fees, will travel. 0171 834 0081.

ANONYMOUS ADDRESSES, business-like banking, confidential cards, passports/phones... offshore options 0500 820011 pt@pkbc.com

AGRICULTURAL OCCUPANCY conditions removed. FREE initial consultation 01509 264102.

CREDIT PROBLEMS preventing loans, mortgages, credit cards, etc? Credit repair service covers ALL adverse credit items, ONLY £45. CHILTERN ASSOCIATES, South 01273 604444, North 0161 929 6006.

LIMITED COMPANIES: £90. Brochure: FREEFONE 0800 526421.

SPEECHWRITING by MITCH MURRAY. See page 30.

CREDIT CARD FRAUD — Credit Repair, Debt Avoidance, Privacy, Disappearance, Drug Info, Surveillance... FREE INFOPACK 0181-423 4849.

ACCOMMODATION ADDRESS: discreet/ confidential mail/ message-holding service. Regent Street 0171 580 4242.

AFFORDABLE PLANNING appeals Nationwide — 01935 872268

£2PW IS ALL IT COSTS for our discreet, confidential accommodation address. Also phone/fax services. 0181 343 2316.

ANY BIRTH, MARRIAGE, death certificate. 0181 680 2762.

CONFIDENTIAL MAILING address — interesting range, low-profile, privacy related services and products. 0181 556 2979 for brochure.

TURN ON ANY WOMAN you desire and have her longing to be in your bed! Details FREECALL 0500 55 55 95 (24 hrs).

PROFESSIONAL LET YOU down? We deal with Professional Negligence — including solicitors. Call ROBERT FESTENSTEIN — Solicitor on 0161 799 1731.

PHONE NUMBERS 07000 560 646.

VISA/MASTERCARDS — very high limit. Tel: 0115 912 3909.

BUKIMA AFRICAN Adventures from 25 days and 30 weeks, departures every month, prices from £450. For brochures and details of video shows phone 0181 451 2446 anytime.

ECONOMIC EXPEDITIONS — Budget overland African expeditions, 5-30 weeks. £360-£1,440. Tel: 0181 995 7707.

BEAUTIFUL, INDEPENDENT and ADVENTUROUS. Original FLY-DRIVE trips to Namibia & South Africa, plus Botswana, Zimbabwe & Zambia. Call SUNVIL 0181 568 4499. ATOL/AITO.

JOURNEY LATIN AMERICA: Low-cost flights, tailor-made and escorted group tours. ATOL, AITO, ABTA fully bonded. Telephone — TOURS: 0181 747 8315. FLIGHTS: 0181 747 3108.

CYCLADES, GREECE — Magical islands, Mykonos, Paros, Naxos, Ios, Sifnos, etc. Peaceful or lively, solitude or activity. Tavernas, villas, hotels, Simply Great. SIMPLY SIMON HOLIDAYS 0171 373 1933, ATOL 2578.

EXPLORE WORLDWIDE — Our superb new brochure will open your eyes to the adventure of a lifetime. Madagascar, Albania, Japan, South Africa, Iran, Vietnam, Yemen... Plus 160 tours, treks and expeditions in Europe, Middle East, Asia, Africa, Australasia, Americas. Small groups. 1-5 weeks. Tel: 01252 344161 (24 hrs). AITO/ATOL bonded.

TOP NOTCH NATURE travel throughout Madagascar, Costa Rica, Peru, Belize, Honduras, etc. REEF AND RAINFOREST TOURS LTD. Tel: 01803 866965, fax: 865916. ATOL 4088

ABSOLUTE AFRICA — camping safaris in Africa, 4-29 weeks, 0181 742 0226.

SPANISH PYRENEES — 0034 73 252076.

TRUCK AFRICA — intrepid camping expeditions. 3-27 weeks from £400. 0171 731 6142 for brochure.

AFRICAN SAFARIS — 4 to 19 weeks camping adventures. For the best value gamewatching & sightseeing, telephone PHOENIX EXPEDITIONS 01509 881818.

TRAVEL THE WORLD FREE as an AIR COURIER. All you need to know revealed in our guide — PLUS additional manual — "How To Obtain & Sell Discount Air Tickets For Profit". Send £9.95 — NEXUS, 308 Liverpool Road, Haydock, Merseyside WA11 9RY.

SOUTH AMERICA — Overland expeditions from 19 days to 14 weeks. Tel: 01926 332222.

TRAVEL INSURANCE is a rip off if you buy through travel agents. Buy from the independent experts and save 40%. We provide the most professional service in the business, offering tailor-made policies at unbeatable prices. Call CLUB DIRECT free on 0500 787838.

SEEKING THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE?

African overland expeditions, hotel & camping safaris, mountain treks or South American adventure holidays from 1-24 weeks. ABTA bonded. For our new brochure and information on video evenings, call:

KUMUKA EXPEDITIONS ON 01233 211666

OVERLAND CAMPING safaris through Africa, Egypt, Turkey. 4-27 weeks. AFRICAN TRAILS, tel: 0181 742 7724.

AFRICA EXPLORED — overland expeditions and safaris for the budget traveller — from £249. Phone: 01633 880224 for free brochure (24hrs).

GREEK ISLANDS HOPPING, aboard 65' schooner. From £150 pp/pw inc 1/2 board, watersports. 01473 612230.

THE PHEASANT INN — Bassenthwaite Lake, Nr Cockermouth, Cumbria. Quiet situation between forest and lake. 20 Bedrooms with private facilities. NO television or phones in bedrooms, or self-service breakfasts. Old-fashioned service and THREE comfortable lounges. Ask your friends about us! Tel: 01768 776234, fax: 01768 776002.

CONSULT THE ORACLE! Affordable travel expertly predicted! Late availability. Fully bonded. Tel/Fax: 01904 608941.

THE MOST COMPETITIVE business class fares to the USA come with a FREE night's accommodation for two at a LUXURY country house hotel — only from the FLIGHT WAREHOUSE. Tel: 0117 984 8044 and book with confidence ABTA C8007 ATOL 2792 IATA 91201946.

WORLDWIDE LOWEST prices allegedly! Tel: 01942 603599/680268. Fax: 01942 670868. Agents ATOL Holders.

AFRICA LOW COST flight specialists 0171 734 7181 — retail agents for ATOL.

LOW COST WORLDWIDE flight specialists. Please call 0171 287 1222 IATA/ATOL.

FLY AN AIRLINER! SIMULATION lease out spare capacity on professional pilot training simulators all around the country. For a virtually real flying experience, or to order a gift voucher, call SIMULATION on 01255-421333.

FLIGHT OPTIONS — telephone booking service. Tel: 01432 851062, Fax: 01432 850722, HENRY ROGERS. ATOL 3793.

PERIOD COTTAGE, idyllic, NT/landmarke style, Lincolnshire Wolds, 0121 4495666.

DEVON (APPLEDORE) — comfortable cottage overlooking Taw/Torridge estuary in picturesque fishing village. GCH. Open fire. Brochure 01227 764275.

CORNWALL CLIFFTOP holiday home. Overlooks sea and sandy beaches on Roseland peninsula. Phone 01424 838404.

REMOVALS AND RUBBISH clearance, 0171 602 3036.

STUFF MOVING — London area. 0181 299 1398.

IRISH REMOVALS — owner driver UK-Ireland WEEKLY. 01232 838111 anytime.

UK-FRANCE-UK — Frequent Service. Tel./Fax 01332 340844.

ANNUAL TRAVEL INSURANCE FROM £46.

With holiday insurance starting from just £46, contact the name you can trust for the best deals on Annual Multi Trip cover. Other policies available – Call for details. For travellers under 65 years only.

GA

General Accident Direct

0800 121 007

Mon – Fri 8am – 8pm,
Sat and Sun 9am – 5pm.

http://www.ga.co.uk/gadirect

SUPER SUMMER SAVINGS

3 ADS FOR THE PRICE OF 2 BOOKED
BEFORE 30TH SEPTEMBER!
*all categories except EYE LOVE

SECURE TRADING on the Net. Sell your goods or services securely on the World Wide Web on the Intervid secure server. Credit cards accepted. Reach a potential audience of millions at home or export. INTERVID: 0171 828 8218. Fax 0171 233 6233. E-mail info@intervid.co.uk URL:www.intervid.co.uk/intervid

CONNECT TO FRANCE'S Minitel — Europewide company searches, leisure, travel, adult and more. 0171 828 8133, http://www.minitel.co.uk

UNIX SPECIALIST — 0181 979 9774.

FAX BROADCASTING reaches 50 or 50,000 within minutes from your fax/PC. Free software. Dealer salesforce customer press marketing etc. Call 07000 FAXMAN (329 626) for help and advice.

EMAIL — No equipment necessary. Your own address £25pa 01886 853450.

SIBELIUS 7. "This extraordinary computer programme has changed the music world forever"— THE TIMES. The state-of-the-art score-writing and MIDI software used by the Royal Academy of Music, BBC and numerous composers, arrangers, teachers and students. 01223 302765 for full information pack. http://www.acorn.co.uk/developers/sibelius/

COMPUTER TROUBLE? Let a genuine PC expert help you with advice, installation, setup, programming and trouble-shooting — and save yourself some big headaches. Call TOBY on 0171-229 3001 for friendly, professional advice.

WANTED CASH/ equipment/instrument. Music project for young offenders/unemployed. Details on request. Telephone 01442 249847.

FEMALE GRADUATE NEEDS £2,500 to fund place on accredited broadcast training course. Box 3204.

FILM MAKER seeks modest donations for film essay about Bosnians. Tel/Fax 0171 627 1857.

HORSERACING — form student/tipster needs bank to relieve bookmakers. Box 0205.

CELEBRATION, COMMUNICATION, transformation. Help change the world. £2000 needed — any donations welcome. Telephone 0171 352 6837.

EX-PRIEST training as teacher, still needs £4,200 towards cost. PLEASE help. Co-operative Bank 08-92-80, 02058458. Thanks.

DESPERATE PLEASE help. Need £9500 to avoid disaster. Clydesdale Ac 60034668, Sort 82-61-22.

SINGLE WORKING mum needs £40,000 to buy own home. Any kind strangers with big hearts and a bit of cash to spare? Please help, love and blessings. Barclays a/c 90921513 Sort Code 20-69-85.

IMPOVERISHED STUDENT planning trip round Europe — any leftover holiday money gratefully received. Box 0406.

TALENTED POTENTIAL actress seeks help with drama school fees (£6768). Donations gratefully received. Box 0506.

TALENTED ARTIST/WRITER with fantastic track record seeks generous patrons for innovative project. £35,000 needed. 0171 234 0926.

ENDURED DIFFICULT circumstances, need £1500 to help fund MA. Thank You. Box 1706.

DESPERATE WITH two you children. Mother trying to rebuild their lives. Please help us. Woolwich A/C 07757519 10-80-02.

PLEASE HELP — legal fees required for growing a bit of what you fancy in my loft. High profile mitigation must forward de-criminalisation process. Box 1806.

VOLUNTARY TEACHER deprived area far east needs funds to continue asap. All assistance appreciated. Nationwide account number 13360565 Sort code 07-01-16.

DONATIONS TO adapt house for handicapped son. 60-30-06 a/c 03850668.

STUDENT NEEDS £2,500. Must finish course. Donations acknowledged. Box 1906.

TRAINING PLACE awaits talented artist who is desperately seeking sponsorship. Box 2006.

COMMITTED HOUSING volunteer financially unstuck. Funds for computer, bills needed. Box 0106.

THREE IDEALISTIC graduates starting literary magazine. Any assistance gratefully received. Box 0206.

STUDENT NEEDS miracle for final year. £5,000. Midland 21208950. 40-24-32.

FAMILY OF FOUR in strife — had a run of bad luck. Need £15,000 to avoid house re-possession. Account No 31073648, Midland Bank 40-17-27.

DESPERATE PLEASE help. NatWest 15386430 Sort 56-00-59.

BEST UNKNOWN stand-up on planet seeks home for year at little or no cost. Have given up nonsense 'job for life' in local government to do something real. Quick. Box 0306.

MIRACLE NEEDED — (£25,000). Barclays Account 60937851, 20-10-53.

HELP! WOLF at door. Talented writer (f) desperately needs donations or bright ideas. Box 3006.

TALENTED ACTING students needs £2000 for fees (01737 812047) Barclays: 00223697 sort code 20 29 90.

LIVE-IN COOK required to help run a country pub between Hereford and Worcester preferably with experience in foreign cuisine. Apply in writing to Box 2904.

PROPERTY FINDER — suitable Central London residential property wanted. Box 4305.

FOR A FREE SAMPLE of the best coffee you will ever buy contact THE COFFEE SOCIETY, Dept PE11, 93 Greyhound Road, London W6 8NJ. Telephone: 0171 386 5575, Facsimile: 0171 386 5150.

CCJs & DEFAULTS LEGALLY removed permanently even if not satisfied. Plus Full Credit Secrets Handbook. ACS 0181 688 9550.

NEED 3 MONTHS Payslips? Lost them? We can supply identical duplicates. Phone 01625 536456.

MASTER OF Business Administration self study course. For brochure 0171 413 9577.

LEARN TO DRIVE Courses. HIGHWAY HOLIDAYS (01492) 531517.

CRASH DRIVING COURSES — 01983 856137.

UNIVERSITIES DEGREES — "Postal", 0161 795 3056.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY DEGREES or Distance Learning Courses. Easier than you think. Free brochure tells how. Academic Dean, ALL SAINTS COLLEGE (M.East/Europe Office) POB 372, Paphos 8102, Cyprus.

JUKEBOX HIRE for parties. Delivered/collected. Choose from 1700 hits 1950-1996. Prices from £98 also sales. 0181 318 2852.

FRIENDLY, ESTABLISHED choir central London seeks new members from September in all voice parts. Rehearsals Tuesdays. Please contact 0181 675 4202.

JAZZ TRIO available for dinner, cocktail, summer parties — 0181 518 1881.

YOUNG LADIES worldwide seek penpals, friends, lifemates. Free details, photos! HERMES, Box 110660/S, D-10836 Berlin, Germany. Fax 0049 30 2513318.

PERSON TO PERSON — best singles magazine in universe. Free details PLUS Bargain Offer! (Dept PE/6) PO Box 4, Goring-on-Thames, RG8 9DN.

TREASURES OF SIAM — Thai Marriage Bureau, Confidential Service, 8 Minster Road, Westgate, Kent CT8 8BP. Fax 01843 834620

ASIAN/EUROPEAN MARRIAGE introduction arranged. SUMAN MARRIAGE BUREAU. Estd 1972. Telephone 0181 574 4867.

MARGARET'S SPECIAL PEN Club — make new friends today UK & overseas. SAE dels: PO Box 1, Prestwick, Ayrshire KA9 1RJ. Est. 1986.

ASIAN/EUROPEAN Introductions Magazine Leicester LE4 5LN, Tel/Fax: 0116 261 0266.

VEGETARIAN MATCHMAKERS — 0181 348 5229.

MAMMAS 'N' PAPPAS — matching mums with men who love kids and family life. 'Now in our 16th year.' 0181 769 6805.

HEDONISM PARTIES — decadent, uninhibited, exhibitionist, funloving risque party animals. SAE PO Box 153, Greenford UB6 8LY. 0181 575 2052.

SPORTSLINE — meet people with the same sport/leisure interests. 0181 672 9686.

GIRLS from Scandinavia & worldwide wish to hear from you. Free details, photos, Worldwide Contacts. Box 4026, S-42402 Angered, Sweden.

"THIS picture-dating idea is brilliant", Captial Ratio. Photo-introductions sent to you. Successful service for professional people. 0171 839 8884 (day), 0181 297 1424 (anytime).

PENPAL MAG for adults: over 500 photos. APPROVAL copy from: MATCHMAKER, (S.76), Chorley, PR7 4BS. Or ring 01257 480155 (24 hours).

PLUMP PARTNERS — National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner, ring 01352 715909.

CONSULTANT Hypnotherapist — Harley Street. Stress, panic attacks, eating disorders, confidence, sexual problems, smoking etc. Telephone JESSICA RICHARDS 0171 935 0023.

TELEPHONE COUNSELLING — practical, affordable, powerful. Free consultation within 1 hour of your call. Call THE ALEXANDER GROUP's psychologists on 01545-560402 (8am-11pm. 7 days).

SELF/COUPLE AWARENESS, career/vocation profiles, discussion groups, workshops, marriage preparation/evaluation. 0500-900-099.

PENIS ENLARGEMENT SYSTEM from our own doctors. Genuine, simple safe, inexpensive. Details: DIPIX DISTRIBUTIONS, POB 75, Sandwich, CT13 9RT.

TALL DARK handsome unattached fit male, senior manager, 48, Suffolk based seeks attractive, bright, lively, female 18-35 for fun, good times and romance. Photo/letter/phone number guarantees reply. Box 0906.

OLD-FASHIONED professional gentleman, 40s, with even temperament seeks the personal friendship of a well-groomed, educated lady, 35-55 years, of nostalgic disposition who has a discerning preference for traditional nylons. Confidentiality assured. Midlands. Box 2606.

LONGLASTING, LITHE, lusty lad (31) looking for likeminded lady (any status) for lecherous liaison. Literate, loveable and a little lewd. N Ireland. Box 2706.

PRIVATE EYE SMALLS
CLASSIFIED LINEAGE ADVERTISEMENTS
6 CARLISLE STREET, LONDON W1V 5RG

£1.75 PER WORD

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR AD

OR FAX THIS FORM WITH YOUR AD: **0171 437 0705**

OR DICTATE YOUR AD WITH CC DETAILS: **0171 439 1151**

OR E-MAIL YOUR AD WITH CC DETAILS: **strobes@cix.compulink.co.uk**

BOX NUMBER (FOR NON-BUSINESS ADVERTISERS ONLY) £8

GENEROUS SERIES DISCOUNTS

5% FOR 3 ADS / 10% FOR 6 ADS / 15% FOR 12 ADS / 20% FOR 26 ADS

THESE PRICES INCLUDE VAT

QUERIES & GENERAL INFORMATION: **0171 439 1141**

☐ BOX NUMBER REQUIRED CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

NAME, ADDRESS & TEL NO: _____

_____

_____

_____

Send your advertisement to arrive at least 10 days before publication date with cheque/postal orders or ACCESS, VISA, SWITCH number. Do not send cash.

NUMBER:

EXPIRY DATE: ISSUE NUMBER (SWITCH):

DON'T BE RUTHLESS. Female, young 40, tall and cuddly smoker seeks man (35-50) attractive with SOH and more exciting in bed than her teddy. W London. Box 2806.

ATTACHED, ATTRACTIVE woman, 46, seeks tall NS man for fun and discrete, uninhibited fling. Surrey Box 2906.

DASHING BLADE (27) seeks beautiful princess for romance and adventure. Are you at home sipping cocktails in Mayfair and white-water rafting on the Zambeze? Photo assures reply. Box 3506.

MAN (1955) VC, FSH, long MOT, excellent runner WLTM slim woman (25040) for fun and more! Photo appreciated, ALA. Warks/W. Mids. Box 3606.

Replying to a PRIVATE EYE Box Number? Address your reply like this:

Box No .....
PRIVATE EYE SMALL ADS
6 CARLISLE STREET
LONDON W1V 5RG

GOOD-LOOKING FEMALE graduate, Bhuddist, 35, seeks male (to 45) to giggle over 'Eye' with. London/Herts/etc/Wales. Photo please. Box 3806.

WELL HEELED 39 seeks high heeled and age for discreet weekday passion, pampering and laughter. Photo appreciated. Thames Valley. Box 3906.

MALE, ATTACHED, amorous (almost 42) seeks occasional soulmate, female friendly full figured and unassertive. London. Box 4006.

DOMINANT CREATIVE and truly gentle man seeks fundamentally unsubmissive superconfident successful woman who has that occasional urge to relax into a very different restrained lifestyle. Box 1306.

UPTOWN GIRL requires Billy Joel 40+ South West England. Box 1406.

NOTHING TO LOSE but our chains? Subversive left man, 35, tall attractive, WLTM slim, attractive unconventional lefty woman for laughs, beers, more? Box 1506.

OXBRIDGE GRADUATE, 26, 5'11", living in London seeks nice female to go to pubs, restaurants, cinema and theatre with. Box 2106.

SCOTLAND: ATTRACTIVE quite glamorous woman, adventurous with warm personality and varied interests seeks similar guy 40/48. Box 2206.

LAUGHTER LINED man seeks lady friend (40s), size 10/12, with busty breasts: — object cinemagoing, conversing over "Sunset Times" after smouldering sex. London. Box 2306.

QUITE BRIGHT, not unattractive, adventurous female, 32, wltm tall man with soh. Box 2406.

PLATER SEEKS boiler. Box 2404.

EROTIC MARRIED man, 48, working away from home seeks married lady for discrete liaisons in Berkshire or near. Box 4106.

SLIM GRADUATE seeks stylish Mrs Robinson. Photo essential. London/Berks. Box 4206.

OFFBEAT MANAGING director seeks bright girlfriend to mix business with pleasure. 0171 792 8825 or Box 3706.

INTELLIGENT, unconventional, unhappily attached lady, late thirties, seeks a reliable, unpretentious and imaginative gentleman who relishes classical music and literature. London. Box 2205.

ARE YOU SEEKINGa discrete uncomplicated liaison in the London or Surrey areas? This 40s married man is tall, wealthy, handsome, funny and in search of a sensual affair. Box 0606.

N IRELAND man 55 married seeks beautiful articulate rampant woman ono. Box 0706.

CARING PROFESSIONAL male, 40s, 5'10", solvent, clean shaven, active and curious, occasionally indecent, seeks young, attractive, slim, curvaceous, mischievous and humorous, unattached female companion ready for upmarket wining, dining, dancing and adventurous weekends in Europe. Relocation to sunnier climes being considered: why not get away while it is till time? London area and SE only. Photo (exchange) ensures immediate reply Box 0806.

STOLEN MOMENTS midst idyllic elegance. Mature, athletic entrepreneur (Piscean) seeks unhappily attached female in need of stability as well as pampering. Ideally tall, 26-35, non-smoker, sensual, eclectic. Box 2506.

BRIGHT, CUDDLESOME lady, 34, seeks intelligent, thoughtful black or foreign man for vibrant relationship. Gloucester/Bristol area. Box 1006.

NAUGHTY BUT NICE afternoons. Attractive male (30) invites ladies to tea and cakes. Photo for a cream horn? London. Box 1106.

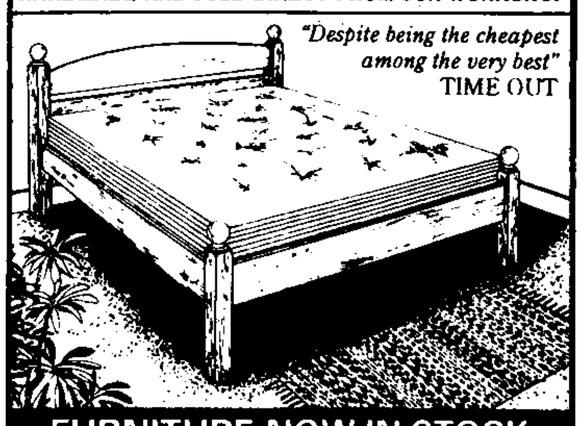
SEXY, FIT, attractive professional woman, 32, looking for soulmate to share good times. Photo appreciated. Box 1206.

PENPALS WANTED. Bomb disposal team of 15 chaps abroad until early '97. Box 1606.

PILOTS: TWO young Army Officer pilots require ladies to correspond with to relieve the boredom. Please enclose a photograph. The Subalterns, 652 Sqn, 1 Regt AAC, SPLIT, BFPO 544, BOSNIA.

TAURUS PINE BEDS

HANDMADE AND SOLD DIRECT FROM OUR WORKSHOP



"Despite being the cheapest among the very best" TIME OUT

FURNITURE NOW IN STOCK

242 KILBURN HIGH ROAD LONDON NW6
OPEN SEVEN DAYS
FREE BROCHURE 0171 624 3024

MultiMax

THE BEST SOFTWARE THE BEST SERVICE THE BEST PRICES

Spare Bill Gates the embarrassment of overwhelming riches with these special offers for EYE readers:

Microsoft Office Professional CD/3.5" £249 + VAT/P&P (£3.50)

Microsoft Dinosaurs £22.48 inc VAT/P&P

Microsoft Ancient Lands £22.48 inc VAT/P&P

MultiMax is one of the UK's leading mail order software companies and a major supplier to the National Council for Educational Technology, Local Education Authorities and schools, as well as the business and domestic markets. We stock 1000s of products and can supply virtually any software at hugely discounted prices. Just call or send for a price list. We pride ourselves on the jargon free service we provide to all our customers, however experienced or inexperienced. Most goods dispatched in 24 hrs.

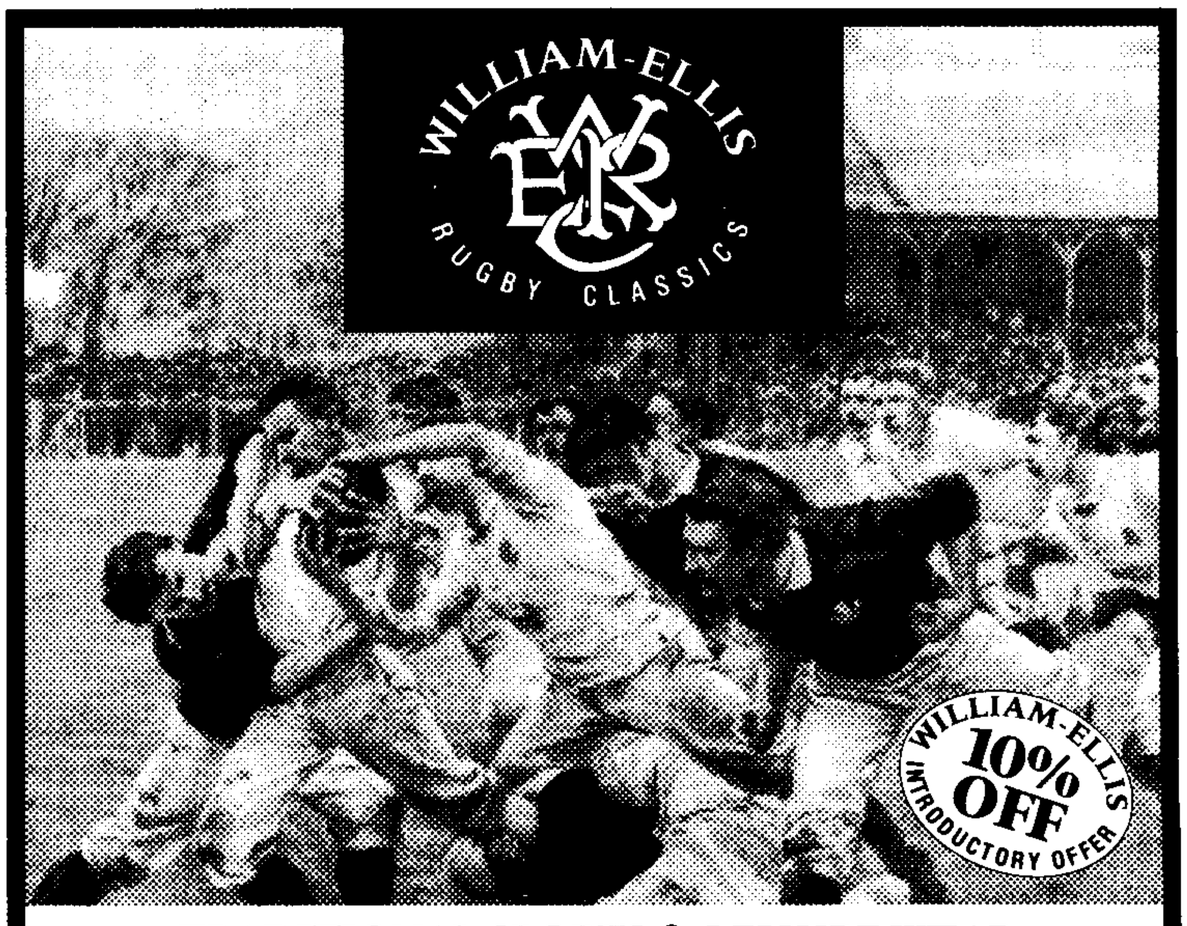
Credit Card Orders (all major credit cards accepted)
Tel: 01652 651 651 Fax: 01652 654568 Mon-Fri 9.00-6.30, Sat 9.30-1.00
By Post: Cheques/PO to MultiMax Ltd, PO Box 28, Brigg DN20 9QH

DISCREET VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Ultra miniature cameras with pinhole lenses that connect to any ordinary TV or VCR.....PIR's, Clocks, mobile Phones e.t.c. with hidden cameras. All available with audio and much much more.

FOR A FREE COPY OF OUR COLOUR CATALOGUE, JUST CALL IN OR TELEPHONE MICRO REAR OF 447 KENTON ROAD KENTON HARROW HA3 OXY TEL: 0181-238-9353

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



TRADITIONAL SPORTS & LEISURE WEAR

William Ellis has a very clear aim – to provide top quality sports and leisure wear at an unbeatable price. We use only a luxury weight cotton jersey in our shirts, making them a full 20% heavier than those of our competitors. The difference is immediately apparent; the fabric provides greater all round comfort and durability. Goods are despatched within 48 hours, stock permitting, and come with our unconditional guarantee.

Please send me a brochure with details of the INTRODUCTORY OFFER...

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

Postcode *PE 996*

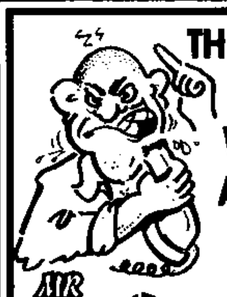
SEND TO: William Ellis, **FREEPOST** 24 LON 8311,
London, W1R 3AD Tel: 0171 734 6100 Fax: 0171 734 6300

Are you paying too much for your books?

Postscript publishes eight catalogues a year, full of books at greatly reduced prices – on history, biography, travel, art, literature, gardening, food, militaria and much more. We are *not* a book club – there is no commitment to buy at *any* time. Send for your free catalogue to:

POSTSCRIPT, Dept PE 58
24 Langroyd Rd, London SW17 7PL
Tel: 0181 767 7421 (office hours)
or 0181 682 0280 (other times)
Fax: 0181 682 0280 (any time)

Visit our Website at
http://www.sandpiper.co.uk/postscript



THE FUNNIEST WAY TO WIND UP A FRIEND!

Call one of the numbers below, put it through to a mate - then wait for the reaction!!!

MR FURY 0336 426 381

MY DAUGHTER'S PREGNANT 0336 426 382

YOU OWE THE TAX INSPECTOR 0336 426 383

IRATE DELIVERY DRIVER 0336 426 384

LOVERS AFFAIR EXPOSÉ 0336 426 385

Jokelines, PO Box 43 Warminster Wilts BA12 7RJ
Calls cost 39p/min cheap 49p/min other times

Increase your business by an order of magnitude...
...Exploit the Internet with CYBER*phile*

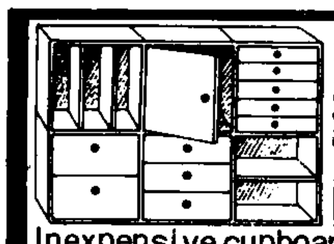
- Your own domain name and world wide web site
- Your own e-mail addresses • Instant market and financial information
- Intranet - internal network with access to legacy databases

Talk to the professionals...

CYBER*phile* will provide your Internet service including, authoring, training, support & hardware from as little as £75.00 +V.A.T./month

CYBER*phile* 01543 45 48 40
FAX: 01543 45 49 39

or e-mail: info@cyberphile.co.uk or World Wide Web: http://www.cyberphile.co.uk



CUBES SHELVING TRESTLES DESKS ETC

Inexpensive cupboards, record units drawers, wardrobes & shelf systems beech, white, black for home or work Mail-order catalogue or visit us at **CubeStore 58 Pembroke Road W8** 081-994 6016 (24hrs) also in Suffolk

Learn to fly a

HELICOPTER

"PROBABLY THE MOST LIBERATING EXPERIENCE IN THE WORLD"

Call now to book a: available as a gift

Trial Lesson .....(£95 inc vat - briefing + ½hr flight)
Introductory Course .....(£440 inc vat - briefings + 2½hrs flight)

Heli Air Ltd: Training Sales Self Fly Hire
R22 R44 Bell206 Enstrom Hughes 300&500

Nr London: Denham Aerodrome - Jn1a M40, Jn16 M25, Tel. 01895 835899
Nr Birmingham: Wellesbourne Airfield - Jn15 M40, Tel 01789 470476

EXCLUSIVE T-SHIRT DESIGN

HAIR YELLOW. FACE BLACK. M,L OR XL £9.99p + £1.00p P&P CHEQUE/PO TO THE T-CHEST (MAIL ORDER)LTD. 92 OLD CHRISTCHURCH RD BOURNEMOUTH. DORSET.BH1 1LR

ROLEX

WE BUY

THE BEST DEAL GUARANTEED
£850 MIN. FOR CURRENT MODELS
CASH PAID INSTANTLY

JEWELLERY
ANTIQUE / MODERN
SILVER ITEMS
PREMIUM FOR SETS & SIGNED PIECES
DIAMONDS
& All FINE WATCHES

Bassange Jewellers since 1950
7 HATTON GARDEN LONDON EC1
TEL: 0171 831 8787
OPEN MON TO SAT

BRING IN OR SEND REGISTERED POST
BUY • SELL • EXCHANGE • GREAT VALUE

Cobra

Imported Indian Lager

"It's Cobra Indian Lager - she's VERY amused"

Available in Indian restaurants and Waitrose supermarkets. Imported by AKI, Chelsea. Tel: 0171 376 3330

General

		TSP OFFER PRICE	PUBLISHER'S PRICE
40500	**The Cambridge Music Guide** *edited by Stanley Sadie and Alison Latham* An authoritative and superbly illustrated guide to every aspect of the musical world.	£1	£18.95 Paperback
35260	**Internet Navigator** *by Paul Gilster* An essential guide for anyone who wants to negotiate the world's information superhighway.	£1	£15.95 Paperback
14060	**Collins Atlas of the World** This new edition presents an easy-to-use record of the latest findings and essential facts about our fascinating ever-changing world.	£1	£16.99 Hardback
35280	**The State We're in** *by Will Hutton* A stimulating analysis of Britain's problems from one of our foremost economic and political journalists. J K Galbraith calls this No. 1 bestseller, "an exceedingly interesting and greatly important book".	£1	£16.99 Hardback
35320	**Law without a Lawyer** *by Fenton Bresler* Take the law into your own hands with the guidance of lawyer and journalist Fenton Bresler's clear, practical advice.	£1	£9.99 Paperback
37080	**Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela** *by Nelson Mandela* "I shall fight the Government side by side with you, inch by inch and mile by mile, until victory is won. The struggle is my life." The epic story of South Africa's first black president.	£1	£20.00 Hardback
40440	**Looking at Earth** *by Priscilla Strain and Frederick Engle* A collection of spectacular photographs of Earth from space, accompanied by an expert commentary. TSP EXCLUSIVE	£1	
37020	**Sex in History** *by Reay Tannahill* The classic survey of sex and sexual practices from prehistory to today by the author of the acclaimed "Food in History". TSP EXCLUSIVE	£1	
39920	**The Big Book of Mensa Puzzles** *by Harold Gale* Pit your wits against the egg-heads at Mensa Publications, who have come up with a series of mind-bending word and number puzzles. TSP EXCLUSIVE	£1	
37090	**The Illustrated World's Religions: A Guide to our Wisdom Traditions** *by Huston Smith* A wide-ranging and beautifully illustrated survey of seven major world religions.	£1	£19.99 Hardback

The Softback Preview, PO Box 415, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB11 1DZ.

Don't be fooled by other book clubs

40510	**Company Man: The Rise and Fall of Corporate Life** *by Anthony Sampson* The author of the acclaimed Anatomy of Britain turns his practised eye on the history and development corporate life, from the East India Company to Toyota and Microsoft.	£1	£20.00 Hardback
38180	**The 10-day MBA** *Steven Silbiger* How to grasp the fundamentals of the MBA without years of study or thousands of pounds in tuition fees.	£1	£25.00 Hardback

Reference

		TSP OFFER PRICE	PUBLISHER'S PRICE
39810	**Larousse Dictionary of Science and Technology** The most comprehensive single volume dictionary of its kind with 45,000 entries.	£1	£45.00 Hardback
38110	**Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India** A gastronomic tour of India by the popular and inspiring cookery writer.	£1	£12.99 Paperback
25480	**The Hutchinson Dictionary of Science** With more than 5,000 explanations of key terms and topics, this encyclopedic dictionary is a comprehensive A to Z of the world of science.	£1	£20.00 Hardback
10200	**The Oxford Companion to the Mind** *edited by Richard L Gregory* Over 1,000 alphabetically arranged entries: a unique insight into the way we use our minds.	£1	£32.50 Hardback
38070	**A Dictionary of English Surnames** *by P H Reaney & R M Wilson* A vital guide for anyone tracing a name or family history in England.	£1	£9.99 Paperback
29870	**The Hutchinson Softback Encyclopedia*** Compiled exclusively for TSP, an outstanding one-volume A-Z encyclopedia with 26,000 entries. *Counts as two choices TSP EXCLUSIVE	£2	

* To order a "counts as two choices" book, write a 5-digit code in one box and 99999 in the next.

19960	**The Oxford Dictionary of Art** *by Ian Chilvers, Harold Osborne & Dennis Farr* With 3,000 entries, this is the most up-to-date and comprehensive reference work on the fine arts available.	£1	£22.50 Hardback
39860	**The Oxford Dictionary of Humorous Quotations** *edited by by Ned Sherrin* Loose End's Ned Sherrin presents 5,000 of his favourite witticisms, organised around major themes such as Actors and Acting, Death, Insults and Sex.	£1	£15.95 Hardback
25430	**Chambers Dictionary of World History*** Truly international in scope and covering the whole of history, this superb reference book provides coverage of the key figures and events that have shaped the world. *Counts as two choices	£2	£30.00 Hardback
27350	**The British Medical Association Guide to Medicines and Drugs** A new edition of the bestselling BMA guide to the 2,000 most widely prescribed drugs in the UK.	£1	£12.99 Paperback
37490	**Whitaker's Almanack 1996*** A new edition of the unique reference guide to British and world affairs. *Counts as two choices	£2	£25.00 Hardback
39830	**The History Today Companion to British History** *edited by Juliet Gardiner and Neil Wenborn* With over 4,500 entries and covering 2,000 years, this is the most comprehensive and authoritative survey of British history available today.	£1	£25.00 Hardback
41510	**Collins Thesaurus** This latest thesaurus from the world-renowned lexicographers has over 16,000 headwords and more than 340,000 synonyms, antonyms and related words. It is the ideal wordfinder for anyone who wants to improve their command of the English language.	£1	£19.99 Hardback

Fiction

		TSP OFFER PRICE	PUBLISHER'S PRICE
39820	**The Information** *by Martin Amis* **The Facts of Life** *by Patrick Gale* Novels from two of the brightest stars in the fiction firmament. TWO BOOKS COUNT AS ONE CHOICE	£1	£31.98 Hardback
42250	**Granchester Grind and Porterhouse Blue** *by Tom Sharpe* Enjoy Sharpe's two uproarious comedies about Machiavellian twists and turns of life in a Cambridge college. TWO BOOKS COUNT AS ONE CHOICE	£1	£30.98 Hardback
40470	**Whit** *by Ian Banks* A fiendish tale centred on a religious cult, delivered with characteristic aplomb by the author of "Complicity" and "The Wasp Factory".	£1	£15.99 Hardback

TSP Exclusives: These titles are not available anywhere else in the UK in any format.

Books of the Month

		TSP OFFER PRICE	PUBLISHER'S PRICE
38080	**Leith's Guide to Wine** *by Prue Leith and Richard Harvey* Packed with useful information and colour photographs, this is a bacchanalian delight with something to offer both the weekend glugger and the serious wine buff.	£1	£12.99 Hardback
40520	**David Hockney** *by Peter Clothier* An in-depth portrait of one of the century's most celebrated and prolific artists.	£1	£15.00 Paperback
10061	**Real Good Food** *by Nigel Slater* Hundreds of easy-to-follow, quickly prepared recipies from the popular *Observer* food writer.	£1	£9.99 Paperback
42460	**The Dog's Mind** *by Dr Bruce Fogle* This absorbing account of dog psychology is a must for anyone who keeps a dog, or is planning to, and for all dog lovers.	£1	£10.99 Paperback

You choose any **3** *You pay only* **£1** **BOOKS EACH**

TSP DOESN'T commit you to buying more books

- You choose any 3 books listed here for the guaranteed price of only £1 each (+p&p) on 10 days home approval.
- TSP softback books have quality soft covers and are exactly the same as the original hardback edition in every detail - except the price!
- We guarantee you will be given the pick of around 100 titles in our free Preview magazine – all chosen for their literary merit or special interest and always offered to you at significant savings.
- You do not have to buy any more books from TSP...ever!

10 Days Home Trial

YES! Please send me the three books I have selected below at the introductory offer price of only £1 each plus a total of £2.95 p&p. If I am not completely delighted I will return them within 10 days and owe nothing. If I decide to keep the books I understand you will send me the Preview magazine free for a minimum of 6 issues. Each Preview will feature a Recommended Title. I am under no obligation to take the Recommended Title at any time and if I do not wish to receive it I need simply say so on the form provided. In fact, I am under no obligation to buy another book...ever. I am over 18 years of age. TSP membership is limited to one per household. Offer valid in UK only.

PLEASE INDICATE BY NUMBER YOUR 3 CHOICES

[ ] [ ] [ ]

*To order a "counts as two choices" book, write a 5-digit code in one box and 99999 in the next.

Add to your IMMEDIATE SAVINGS. Choose an optional 4th book for only £4.99 with no additional postage costs. Indicate by number your chosen book. (Your fourth book cannot be a "counts as two choices" book.) ▶ [ ]

(Block Letters)

Name Mr/Mrs/Miss

Surname

Address

Postcode

Do you own a telephone? YES ☐ NO ☐

Have you ever bought anything by mail in the post? YES ☐ NO ☐

How have you paid for your mail-order purchases? (tick all that apply)

CASH ☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ CHEQUE ☐ POSTAL ORDER ☐

From time to time we may make our mailing list available to carefully chosen companies whose products or services might interest you. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive such offers. ☐

PE16

Published by Pressdram Ltd, 6 Carlisle St, London W1. 0171-437 4017. Printed by East End Offset Ltd, Empson St, London E3 3LT. Distributed by P.E. Distribution, Mortimer Hse, 230/236 Lavender Hill, London SW11. 0171-223 9971